

13 November 2019

Terry Martin SC - Inquiry Chair
Queensland Racing Integrity Commission
Level 6
41 George Street
Brisbane QLD 4000

Via email: contact@inquiry.qric.qld.gov.au

Re: Inquiry into Animal cruelty in the management of retired Thoroughbred and Standardbred Horses in Queensland

Dear Mr. Martin,

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to this inquiry.

The Standardbred Association Qld Inc welcomes the opportunity to provide a submission to the inquiry into Animal cruelty in the management of retired racehorses in Queensland. The SAQ has long advocated for improved welfare for retired racehorses and believes the community expects the racing industry to make appropriate provisions for horses upon retirement from racing.

SAQ will continue to be interested in all matters that ensure industry best practices are maintained, and horse welfare remains the highest priority for all within the Racing Industry.

This submission is made on behalf of the Standardbred Association Queensland Inc and approved by the Associations Management Committee.

Nominated Contact Person: Melissa Bell (SAQ Horse Welfare Officer) – contact details below.

Should you require any further assistance or information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



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Inquiry into Animal cruelty in the management of retired Thoroughbred and Standardbred Horses in Queensland

Standardbred Association Queensland Inc - written submission addressing any aspect of the Terms of Reference and response to the following questions:

- **Should welfare standards for retired racehorses be defined in terms of quality of life or length of life, or both?**
 - Without quality of life there is no point in quantity. As there is currently no system to monitor retired racehorse welfare, we do not know where these horses are, what their welfare status might be, or indeed, if they are alive or dead – perhaps rendering the question of quality versus quantity somewhat redundant at this moment in time. Of course, all treatment needs to be humane and it is time for openness and transparency in all aspects of racehorse breeding, training and post-racing decision making processes. We need to enforce the existing rules and the development of a re-homing program that includes education and support for any owner of an off-the-track horse during its lifetime.
 - Quality of life should be prioritised but length of life is also a quality of life indicator.
 - Quality of life assessment guidelines must be determined and provided so that they can practically be applied by practitioners in the field. For example, the Five Domains Model of Welfare Assessment and Monitoring is adopted.
 - Racing bodies could do more to incentivise longer careers in racing, for example, reducing the emphasis on 2 and 3 year old races and promoting with prize money incentives, races for older horses (e.g. 7 and 8 year olds).
- **Is there still an argument for the commercial slaughter of horses, if performed appropriately and humanely?**
 - Yes. Banning the commercial slaughter of horses would likely increase the negative welfare impacts. The emphasis must remain on improving the welfare throughout the processing chain, e.g. from the point of sale, transport, holding period and processing.
 - Whether it is appropriate and humane, should be based on the latest evidence based recommendations such as those from the Australian Veterinary Association:
https://www.ava.com.au/policy-advocacy/policies/euthanasia/humane-slaughter/?utm_source=informz&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=media-release&fbclid=IwAR030oL_TkEbAwwdAbfHsJ2yPmod7RBFX2WYkrIUf1nscWL4vLXbtH4uPUY
These guidelines include installation and monitoring CCTV cameras at all meat processing facilities. These would enable enforcement of regulations and meeting the European Union Animal Welfare Requirements found at: <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/export/controlled-goods/meat/elmer-3/eu-animal-welfare-requirements>
Additionally, horse welfare standards at meat processing facilities should be drafted specifically to account for species specific requirements. (e.g. facilities designed specifically for horses transport arrangements).
 - This question is difficult to answer without clarity around the definition of ‘commercial slaughter’. There could be valid social licence concerns around the pairing of ‘horses bred for human entertainment’ and ‘commercial slaughter’. The first step would need to be transparency, where the public was made aware that horses bred to race were then to be commercially slaughtered at the end of their racing lives, which may not meet with widespread enthusiasm.

- **Should racehorses be an exception?**

- No. However it should be possible for owners to opt individual horses out (racehorse or otherwise) of slaughter, such as happens in the lifetime identification register in Europe.
- Lifetime traceability register should also be designed in a way that makes it possible for breeders/owners to indicate their willingness to buy back the horse at any point of its life. (e.g. Edinburgh Park Stud)
- Bred for entertainment and profit making, racehorses, when young, are expensive to breed, keep, train and maintain. While they continue to provide that entertainment and associated profit, their treatment remains relatively good. The facts disclosed in the ABC's 7:30 report that so shocked the public, demonstrate how quickly this can change for these horses. No sentient being should be treated in this way and there is an urgent need for a comprehensive re-homing program, including education and support for new owners, in order for racing to maintain its social licence to operate.

- **Are you aware of any gaps or inadequacies in the regulatory arrangements for managing the welfare of retired racehorses?**

- Firstly, we need to provide an introduction into The Standardbred Association Queensland Inc (SAQ) to highlight what we believe to be inadequacies in the Racing Industries arrangements for managing the welfare of retired racehorses.

SAQ was founded in 1998, and was primarily established as the Queensland branch of the National Body - Standardbred Pleasure and Performance Association. It became evident that there was a shortfall for opportunities for Standardbreds retiring from Racing, with a large majority of them finding themselves in slaughter yards. When the SAQ discovered the great number of horses leaving the Harness Race Track with no safety net, they made a mission to find a solution. In 2002, the SAQ started their Standardbred Adoption Program, which was one of the first Not-For-Profit Associations to focus specifically on retraining and rehoming retired racehorses. Over the past 17 years, the program has steadily grown, along with the racing industry's awareness of the importance of retirement options for its retired athletes, and we have transitioned and rehomed almost 1200 Standardbreds. The SAQ's focus has been the facilitation of opportunities for Standardbreds to transition from race training to appropriate long-term retirement homes, primarily as ridden or pleasure harness horses.

SAQ led the Nation in Standardbred Retired Racehorse Adoptions, rehoming an average of 100 Standardbreds a year through our Horse Adoption Program. This program served 3 race tracks in Qld, Albion Park, Redcliffe and Marburg, working directly with owners and trainers in need of assistance to find suitable Pleasure homes for their Standardbreds retiring from racing. SAQ does not have their own rehoming facilities, and is run entirely by volunteers. We had several volunteers who fostered horses prior to rehoming when possible, with SAQ financing all feed, Veterinary Care or rehabilitation costs and retraining costs. The program accepted any retired racehorse coming directly from the track or a training facility that had the ability to move into a second career. Approximately 20% of horses needed rehabilitation for injuries and 80% were able to go right into new retirement homes and vocational training. The SAQ has played a large role in raising awareness in both the racing and equestrian industry about the need for retirement options for retiring Standardbreds. The program has worked directly with the racing industry and has provided

rehabilitation and rehoming for more Standardbreds than any other rehoming organisation in the country.

The SAQ identified an urgency to receive more ongoing assistance from the Racing Industry in accommodating and retraining Standardbreds immediately from retirement. Although SAQ was rehoming an average of 100 Standardbreds each year (128 in 2019), there are still a large number of retiring horses discarded due to lack of readily available options. SAQ, like every credible Not-For-Profit equine rehoming establishment, was operating at full capacity due to lack of rehoming facilities, volunteers and necessary resources. The program received ongoing enquiries from owners and trainers who wished to retire their horses, but due to limited time, space and funding, not all horses could be accepted.

SAQ have been deeply disappointed at the lack of action from not only the racing authorities but government as well. We have been campaigning for assistance from the industry to rehome retired Standardbreds for many years, and due to the constant promises of assistance coming, are still yet to see any light at the end of the tunnel. This ongoing inaction and passing the buck has forced SAQ to make the decision that as of 1st October, 2019, we would cease to accept any further Off the Track Standardbreds retiring from racing for rehoming.

Each year, the racing industry ensures a steady stream of horses that have found themselves at the end of their racing careers. The majority of racehorses will have a racing career of only 2-3 years yet their life expectancy is 25-30+ years. Whatever the reason or age at which it occurs, all racehorses will eventually cease racing. There is a high level of public expectation that these horses will be appropriately cared for in their post-racing life, not least because they have been bred and used for sport and profit in a multi-billion dollar industry. It should not be the responsibility of a few volunteer groups to advocate for these horses when they are no longer able to continue earning money for this industry!

As an industry, we need to communicate our welfare story better and we have to maintain public trust in racing as a recreational sport. The sector as a whole must clearly show the general public that horse welfare is its top priority, both on the race track, and for the entire lifecycle of the Standardbred!

Other gaps or inadequacies SAQ is aware of:

- SAQ would like to see amendments to Queensland's regulatory arrangements that include safeguarding the welfare of all animals involved in the racing industry, before, during and after their racing careers. In particular, better welfare outcomes need to be put in place to dramatically reduce wastage in the racing industry. This in turn would improve the general public's negative perception of the racing industry, attracting a much larger audience to the sport.
- There is no central co-ordination of the many initiatives in place, accompanied by widespread, positive publicity of the fantastic stories which are evolving – at present, largely behind the scenes.
- More resources are needed to generate increased opportunities for a greater number of retired horses to find a purposeful, long term future in retirement.
- Lack of Education for harness industry participants about the options available for horses that are no longer suitable for racing.
- Lack of traceability from the point of retirement.

- Duty of care to ensure the horse is treated during its racing career to enable it to transition to a second career.
 - Duty of care from the person in charge to ensure the horses are going to appropriate homes and to follow up on the welfare of horses retired to their future home(s).
 - We do not know exactly what happens to many retired Racehorses as there is currently no accurate or transparent lifetime traceability system for racehorses. However, a number of surveys have been conducted in recent years in an attempt to determine their fate: these have reported a range of sometimes contradictory outcomes.
 - Support the mandatory collection and publication of comprehensive life cycle and injury statistics for racehorses. In this way accurate information will be available on the experience of every racehorse from birth to death.
- In the long-term implement strategies to manage over breeding e.g., incentivise longer race careers.
 - The racing industry needs to do more to adopt responsible breeding practices including reducing the number of racehorses bred, minimising the risk of injury, and for horses to be provided with a suitable alternative role on retirement with provisions being made to ensure their long-term welfare.
 - Lack of industry transparency - It is essential that the racing industry collate and publish relevant data that affect the welfare of horses. Too little is known about the true nature and extent of injuries and deaths of horses which in turn affects the 'wastage' rate and fate of racehorses. Until such data are available, the industry is not motivated or compelled to take action to improve welfare in these specific areas.
 - Embed in the racing regulations, the concept of life-time responsibility for all foals bred (e.g. such as British Horseracing Authority BHA and New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing (NZTR)). Lifetime traceability register should also be designed in a way that makes it possible for breeders/owners to indicate their willingness to buy back the horse at any point of its life. (e.g. Edinburgh Park Stud)
 - It should be possible for owners to opt individual horses out (racehorse or otherwise) of slaughter, such as happens in the lifetime identification register in Europe.
 - Racing bodies should discourage the sale of retired racehorses through public auctions as it diminishes the ability to assess the appropriateness of the purchaser (both on welfare and safety risk management of horses and people). Racing bodies should work with auction houses to develop appropriate safeguards for the racehorse owners.
 - The major problem with the existing regulatory arrangements for the management of the welfare of retired racehorses is that they are unclear and unenforced or unenforceable. Without a way to trace horses and a means of tracking their welfare, it is almost impossible to begin. See a recent article in The Conversation: <https://theconversation.com/whos-responsible-for-the-slaughtered-ex-racehorses-and-what-can-be-done-125551>
 - The regulations that are in place, while they vary from state to state, are also vague and there is no evidence that any such regulations have ever been enforced. Putting the onus on the owner of the horse to find a suitable home, which is the case with existing regulations, may not always be the most sensible or appropriate option. Owners, or syndicate managers often know little or nothing about horse ownership, care or management and once the horse has stopped producing an income for owners they may not be interested in its future or its ongoing welfare. Therefore, it is essential to establish some sort of rehoming/training program as early as possible in the animal's life, to ensure its future. The Kandoo Training Passport, discussed below, is such a proposal.

- **Are you aware of any gaps or inadequacies in the regulatory arrangements, including the transport standards, for managing the welfare of horses in the meat processing industry?**
 - It is patently clear that there is inadequate enforcement of any welfare regulations, as shown in the recent 7.30 report. In addition, because we have no accurate data regarding the number of horses slaughtered and the amount of pet food produced from that, there is a valid concern that this meat may be entering the human food chain, as has been seen in other countries. This is a human health concern as well as a welfare concern for the horses.
 - There are no horses-specific welfare standards for the slaughter of horses. Horses are included under the Australian Standard for the Slaughter of Livestock but the standards are dated and have very minimal animal welfare requirements.
 - Despite a requirement for one veterinarian to be at the facility during processing of animals at export abattoirs, these facilities are large, process multiple species, and the abattoir veterinarian's role is largely focused on animal health and meat safety.
 - It is challenging to enforce animal welfare when detailed and species specific standards are not in place.
 - There is no transparency, CCTV monitoring, or data collection made available to animal welfare science researchers to enable the monitoring and improvement of welfare standards at slaughter facilities.
 - Slaughter at knackeries is highly unregulated. There are no requirements for a veterinarian or animal welfare officer, they are audited very infrequently, if at all, and have no requirements for specific animal welfare audits.
 - With only two export abattoirs Australia wide, horses are exposed to long distance travel, injuries are very common. Typically, a large number of horses that are often unfamiliar with each other, will be travelling together and a range of potential stressors have been reported, including isolation from herds, and/or exposure to new and possibly aggressive horses, temperature extremes, food and water deprivation, and novel surroundings.
 - For horses being slaughtered for human consumption, a medication history is required for the six-month period prior to ensure no drug residues will be present in the meat. This means that they need to be 'held' for six months prior to slaughter. This is a period of time where there is more potential for welfare issues related to inadequate care. There is very little knowledge or research available on the welfare of horses arriving in abattoirs, but one study that assessed hoof condition of horses arriving at an abattoir found that 80% of horses had hoof issues related to being overgrown, suggesting at least some neglect in husbandry prior to slaughter.
 - An export abattoir may be processing up to 300 to 400 horses in one day, which is inherently more likely to lead to extreme fear and subsequent mistreatment.
 - Horses at abattoirs are killed by captive bolt. Sedation cannot be given to horses destined for human consumption. It can be very difficult to accurately position the captive bolt in a fully conscious horse, particularly one that is anxious and/or head shy and is moving its head. Attempting to restrain a horse's head results in more anxiety and fear, and their long neck makes complete head restraint almost impossible to do safely. This is further hindered by slipping and falling within the stunning box as the horse panics. Combined, this leads to a high risk of inaccurate placement of the captive bolt when it is fired resulting in intense pain prior to an accurate repeat shot. In some cases, there is a risk that the horse may be hoisted and the neck severed before it is fully unconscious.
 - Extreme fear and the high risk of inaccurate placement would most likely be worse for unhandled horses not used to human proximity or confinement, such as brumbies. One review of 150 horses killed at an abattoir in Quebec found that 40% of horses were not rendered unconscious with the first captive bolt shot.

- Some knackeries also use captive bolt stunning with the risk of similar welfare issues. Others may use a firearm, shooting the horse within a paddock, and this is more likely to result in immediate loss of consciousness without pain and less fear.
- On-farm slaughter (for meat processing) by accredited operators should be an option available to horse owners and should be subsidised by industry if necessary.
- Abattoir facilities are designed for cattle. Horses are behaviourally very different to cattle and require different handling and different environments to minimise distress. However, abattoir facilities in Australia are not specifically designed for horses (e.g. Meramist abattoir in QLD is designed for cattle), and abattoir staff may not have appropriate training in horse handling.
- Horses also vary significantly in size as well as in their previous experiences with humans and other horses. For example, some horses are used to being led and may become distressed at being driven from behind within a group, whilst other horses may be completely unhandled and distressed if separated from their group.

<http://www.grandin.com/humane/questions.answers.horse.slaughter.html>

- **If the inquiry were to recommend a rehoming program for retired racehorses in Queensland, what elements should it possess to deliver greatest benefits, and how should it be funded?**

- All Thoroughbreds and Standardbreds bred specifically for the purpose of racing, should be afforded a Superannuation/Retirement Plan which protects them when they can no longer earn money for their owners and the industry. Taking care of our retired racehorses is an ethical obligation and an Industry driven Racehorse Welfare Fund needs to be established which generates funds to be assigned to rehoming and horse welfare of retired racehorses!

a) Program elements:

- It would be beneficial to have Racing Industry Facilities, funded through their Racehorse Welfare Fund, specifically for Thoroughbreds and Standardbreds retiring from racing. These facilities should be set up to enable retired racehorses to be assessed by a vet for soundness and rehoming suitability, spelled after racing, rehabilitated (if necessary), re-educated and rehomed.
- Purchase or lease property throughout QLD which includes sufficient areas to enable its rehoming program.
- It would be beneficial to consider separate Rehoming Facilities for Thoroughbreds and Standardbreds, as retraining of both breeds requires vastly different knowledge and experience. Thoroughbreds and Standardbreds exhibit some differences, which are important to consider.
- A Facility set up and staffed similar to the Greyhound Adoption Program in Churchable, QLD, which is now totally funded by QRIC as a result of recommendations from the inquiry into the Greyhound Live Baiting Scandal in 2016. Purchase or lease a suitable property where retired racehorses can be accessed, spelled, rehabilitated and retrained prior to rehoming into suitable homes.
- Promote and offer several ways for trainers and owners to rehome their retiring racehorses. Horses could be listed for sale on a central, industry-based website, or they can donate horses to the Industry funded Rehoming Facility, which then adopts them out to approved individuals (if deemed suitable for rehoming).
- Many owners and trainers find suitable homes for their retired racehorses post racing. If they are comfortable doing this they should be allowed to continue. The difficulty comes with the lack of traceability once the horse has been rehomed. The National Horse Traceability Register should greatly improve this situation. Owners who rehome their horse independently, should be provided with an incentive of 100% reimbursement of Breeder/Sales levy after proof of successfully rehoming their horse to a suitable home.

- The key factor to any successful rehoming, is that the horse be retired from racing either sound or with an injury that is easily rehabilitated. It is imperative for owners and trainers to understand that a lack of soundness after racing is the main impediment to horses finding successful second careers.
- Qualified Vet assessment should be done of the horse on arrival to facilities.
- If a horse is deemed unsuitable for rehoming, the original donating owner has the option to take the horse back or is involved in further decisions regarding humanely euthanising the horse as the last resort.
- The horse is given one month to spell (or recommended vet plan followed for rehabilitation), prior to the commencement of retraining.
- The retraining process requires specific skills and knowledge in handling and retraining, utilising evidence based, ethical training methods, assessing suitability and horse behaviour. It involves a transition from one lifestyle (Racing) to another (Pleasure or Performance) and so it is important that horses are assessed and retrained to suit their new environments.
- Access to industry-based training that aligns with Industry standards in relation to animal welfare, and thoroughly addresses the skills needed to retrain horses for new environments, opening up new opportunities for workers and the industry as a whole.
- Videos and/or photos are taken of the horse being retrained/ridden, unsaddled, led etc and uploaded to the industry-based website along with the Horses Adoption Advertisement advising all racing details/history, horse characteristics e.g. Age, size and temperament and owner/rider suitability.
- Person wishing to adopt a horse through the program completes an Adoption Application Form which details their understanding of caring for a horse, costs involved, their experience level, and what they intend to do with the horse.
- Once a person is approved and a suitable horse can be matched to the persons requirements, the person completes an Adoption Contract which stipulates all conditions and mandatory obligations during the 12-month adoption period. They must pay an Adoption Fee to the program, which adds to the perceived value of the horse (the horse is not free and we believe that if a person can not afford to pay the appropriate fee, then they will not be able to afford to properly care for the horse).
- It is essential that once the horse is matched to a suitable adoption home, there is regular, ongoing support and monitoring. We recommend mandatory 3 months photos and update, 6 months & 12-month photos and vet/health checks, with the opportunity for the program to do random property and horse health checks throughout the 12-month adoption period (similar to what is done in racing stables).
- If, for any reason, the adopted horse is deemed unsuitable, or circumstances change and the person is no longer able to care for the horse, the program must be notified immediately, and the horse must come back through the program to be reassessed and rehomed again.
- See attached SAQ Horse Placement Procedure Manual for processes implemented in our Horse Adoption Program.
- The program needs to be lifelong, affordable, evidence-based and user-friendly. The program must educate and support the new owner on an ongoing basis.
- To ensure the ongoing welfare of retired racehorses, it is imperative that any rehoming program provides easily accessible, free training to each and all future owners of the retired racehorse. This could be done in the form of an e-Passport (as suggested below). The other essential item is support for the owners of these horses. When a rehoming program includes training, support and a system for monitoring ex-racehorses, it has the greatest potential to succeed. While temporary retraining facilities can be helpful initially, they are not effective in the longer term and lack both support and education for the new owners.
- The Kandoo Training Passport, using evidence-based, ethical training methods, is offered by Kandoo Equine, here in Queensland (see www.kandooequine.com/race2ride). This program has been developed over the past ten years, follows the training principles of the International Society of Equitation Science and is based in learning theory. Kate Fenner ([---

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about-kate) is an equine scientist, horse trainer and researcher currently completing a PhD with the faculty of veterinary science at the University of Sydney. Kate's Kandoo training is applicable to all horse owners for training and retraining in any discipline but contains modules specifically dedicated to off-the-track horses and their special requirements (to learn more about these requirements, visit www.kandooequine.com/race2ride).

- The main obstacle to optimal welfare for these retiring racehorses is their perceived zero value. Retired racehorses are inexpensive, often free to obtain, and this means they are undervalued as a result; they become replaceable, expendable, project horse and often get passed from home to home. By providing these horses with a Training Passport, also giving the owner access to a supportive online community, and having that Passport belong to the horse and thus move with the horse when it changes homes, gives the animal two important things: 1) a value and 2) the prospect of a future with humane treatment.
- A further difficulty, and a direct result of these zero perceived values, faced by these off-the-track horses, is that they often attract novice owners and those without a support community, knowledge or the financial means to sustain their sometimes specialised care. The Kandoo Training Passport remedies this situation by giving the current owner access to training without them having to seek out and pay for external help, in addition to the invaluable support of the online community and, in time, local riding groups.
- This is an opportunity for Queensland to show initiative and leadership in the ethical rehoming of ex-racehorses by providing a comprehensive and sustainable, fully integrated rehoming program. This program provides ongoing support for all ex-racehorses, not just the chosen few that make it to a brief retraining program. The retraining of horses takes time and new owners must also learn how to retrain their own horses. Those few animals that are admitted into one of the current retraining programs, can later fall through the cracks as the new owners do not have the knowledge or skill to improve or even maintain their education. These horses quickly revert to old patterns of behaviour, which can be dangerous, further risking their welfare and increasing the likelihood of their being sold on or finding their way to a sale yard and slaughterhouse.

NB: Kate Fenner resides in the Bundaberg area and is available and happy to speak, demonstrate or discuss Kandoo Training Passports and the Equine Behaviour Assessment and Research Questionnaire (E-BARQ), below, at any time (please see attached, Kate Fenner CV).

b) Funding:

- The Racing Industry/Government needs to establish a racehorse welfare fund which generates funds to be assigned to rehoming and horse welfare of retired racehorses. These funds could be generated by means of:
 - 2% of all prizemoney.
 - A levy on breeders (e.g. \$1000 levy to register a Thoroughbred or Standardbred foal). This levy could be reimbursed if the owner rehomes the horse independently when retiring from racing.
 - Percentage of the net sale price from all Sales of Thoroughbred and Standardbred (e.g. Magic Millions and online sales).
 - 1% of gambling turnover.
 - Annual Unclaimed Tote prizemoney.
 - Funds collected from the industry for fines, fees etc.
 - Percentage of Membership Fees and general admission fees from Race Clubs.
 - Percentage of Television rights from Media.
 - Rehoming Program Adoption fees charged when a horse has been rehomed.

- Public Donations.
- Funding needs to be sustainable, industry/breeder/owner generated, transparent and directed appropriately.
- The rehoming program needs to be considered at the beginning of the horse's life rather than at the end of its racing career, as is currently the case. Both breeding and preparing a horse to begin racing are expensive and it is at this time, when there is money around, that the horse's future needs to be ensured.
- Optimally, horse owners should be required to purchase horses a 'Training Passport' on registration with the racing authority. This Passport (see www.kandooequine.com/race2ride) would remain with the horse throughout its life, granting access to an online training course and a supportive community to the horse's owner at any time. However, a Training Passport could also be purchased later in the horse's life if more appropriate or until such a time as all horses have Training Passports at the start of racing.
- Putting the onus back on to the breeder or purchaser of the racehorse and securing the horses' future at the beginning of its life rather than the end of its racing career is also a more economically viable option than attempting to re-train large numbers of horses.
- Those horses without an existing Training Passport could purchase one from the Racehorse rehoming program, earning the organisation an affiliate commission of 50% of the Passport cost (\$1,200) and thus providing financial assistance to their rehoming efforts. Ideally, the Passport cost should go to the owner/trainer of the horse wishing to rehome the animal, thus making the ex-racehorse an attractive alternative for those wishing to acquire a horse.
- To reeducate and rehome racehorses we need to increase the demand for these horses, and restore their value both off the track and in later life. This could be done by providing financial incentives to all thoroughbred and standardbred equestrian competitions. Prize money/Sponsorship for these Equestrian Competitions could come from the Racehorse Welfare Fund.
- The Racing Industry also needs to recognise, reward and encourage the efforts of all organisations efforts to positively promote Thoroughbreds and Standardbreds.
- **Are you familiar with the current Federal Senate Committee into the feasibility of a National Horse Traceability Register for all horses? What impact would this have on your organisation?**
 - A traceability register would link a single responsible person with a single uniquely identified horse. The human and horse ID would link with a horse's documentation stamped with a Universal Equine Life Number (UELN). In Australia these three IDs can be linked with PIC code. This would benefit:
 - Biosecurity – Enable organisation to comply with much higher biosecurity standards than currently, reducing administration load for the organisation.
 - Food Safety
 - Animal Welfare – being able to identify the horse and person responsible will help track history which impacts the care and re-training of retired racehorses. For example, their suitability for specific disciplines and levels of rider experience required.
 - Human Welfare – better transparency, knowing the horse's history, is always going to be better. For example, matching horses to humans' level of experience.
 - Crime/Fraud deterrent – Horses found wandering loose or abandoned, reuniting horses after natural disasters to their legal owners, any situation where one horse could be substituted for another and aid towards proof of ownership.

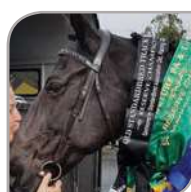
- Accurate data on longevity of racehorse careers and statistics on what happens to racehorses post racing.
- A Horse Traceability Register would be a positive step forward for the welfare of retiring racehorses however it will not monitor their well-being or allow for intervention when necessary. The University of Sydney has recently released an on-going, longitudinal study that, if made compulsory by all Thoroughbred and Standardbred owners/breeders/trainers to complete on a six-monthly basis, would go a long way to ensuring both the traceability and the welfare of these horses from birth and through their post-racing lives.
- The project is called The Equine Behaviour Assessment and Research Questionnaire (E-BARQ) and was launched last month (<https://theconversation.com/is-your-horse-normal-now-theres-an-app-for-that-107000>).
- The Standardbred Association of Queensland work closely with the developer of this study, Kate Fenner of Kandoo Equine (www.kandooequine.com/e-barq), and understand that horse owners could be required to submit their bi-yearly results to any body/organisation for review. As we know, these horses often change homes several times in their post-racing careers and it is at these times that the horse's welfare is at greatest risk because of horse-rider mismatches. The E-BARQ tool would enable us to better match horses with potential owners as it provides an overview of the horse's ability and personality traits.
- The E-BARQ tool, www.e-barq.com, is free of charge and provides owners themselves with an insight into their horses' well-being. This video shows how the questionnaire works and the benefits provided to owners: <https://youtu.be/TBKry6Wz2gc>
- So, while SAQ is very much in favour of a National Horse Registry, we suggest adding E-BARQ to the requirements of all Thoroughbred and Standardbred owners, at any stage of that horse's life, and implementing it, on a mandatory basis, as early as possible.



Standardbred Association
Queensland

SAQ HORSE PLACEMENT PROCEDURE

MANUAL



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ABOUT THE STANDARDBRED ASSOCIATION QLD INC (SAQ)

SAQ was founded in 1998 and was primarily established as the Queensland's Standardbred Breed Society. It became evident that there was a shortfall in opportunities for Standardbreds retiring from racing - with a large majority of them finding themselves in slaughter yards.

In 2002, SAQ started the Rehoming and Adoption Program, which was the first Not for Profit Association in Queensland to focus specifically on retraining and rehoming retired racehorses. Over the past 16 years, the program has steadily grown - along with the racing industry's awareness of the importance of retirement options for its retired athletes - and we have now rehomed well over 1,000 Standardbreds through our adoption program.

SAQ aims to increase the demand for retired Standardbred racehorses as pleasure and performance horses and is being done through the SAQ Standardbred Horse Adoption Program. The adopted Standardbreds have successfully transitioned into both Pleasure and Performance Homes after their retirement from their traditional role of Harness Racing. The SAQ also runs and sponsors many shows, events, clinics, shares the success stories and actively promotes the attributes of the breed. SAQ is actively educating the community about the various life beyond racing options, the versatility of use, and the appropriate care and retraining of Standardbred racehorses.

OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSOCIATION

- *To raise the profile of the Standardbred in all equestrian events*
- *To provide fair and equal competition in all aspects of equestrian events*
- *To promote the Standardbred as a Pleasure & Performance Horse*
- *To promote the temperament and versatility of the breed*
- *Provide a vehicle for Standardbred owners to meet and communicate*

WHAT ELSE DOES THE SAQ DO?

The SAQ has many goals and ideas for the future. We aim to continue to grow our Association so that we can build relationships and rapport with owners, trainers, members, the equine industry and the general public. This will allow us to continue to promote Standardbreds as not only great harness racehorses but as competition horses in a variety of disciplines as well.

Here are just some of things we currently offer SAQ members:

- *Standardbreds through the SAQ Rehoming and Adoption Program*
- *Sponsorship of Breed classes at Agricultural Shows and the Brisbane RNA Show*
- *Annual Standardbred State Championships – Dressage, Showjumping, Hacking and Harness*
- *Organised displays at race meetings*
- *Events, seminars, clinics, information days and musters for our members to attend*
- *Organised Trail Rides, weekend trips, and other social events*
- *Registration of Pleasure and Performance Standardbreds and Partbred Standardbreds*
- *Annual Members Awards*
- *Sponsorship of Annual Pony Club Award & Endurance Performance Standardbred Award*

SAQ MISSION STATEMENT

The Charter of the Standardbred Association Queensland Inc. (SAQ) is to promote the Standardbred as a successful & versatile horse that can excel in many disciplines outside their traditional role of harness racing. Through shows and organised displays, we will continue to highlight the abilities and temperament of the Standardbred.

We aim to be an Association with a common interest: To promote contact between Standardbred owners regardless of experience or the discipline their horse/s are involved in.



SAQ'S REHOMING & ADOPTION PROGRAM

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

SAQ was founded in 1998 and was primarily established as the Queensland's Standardbred Breed Society. However, it became evident that there was a shortfall in opportunities for Standardbreds retiring from racing - with a large majority of them finding themselves in slaughter yards.

In 2002, SAQ started the Rehoming and Adoption Program, which was the first Not for Profit Association in Queensland to focus specifically on retraining and rehoming retired racehorses.

Over the past 16 years, the program has steadily grown - along with the racing industry's awareness of the importance of retirement options for its retired athletes - and we have now rehomed well over 1,000 Standardbreds through our adoption program.

HOW DOES THE PROGRAM WORK

Standardbreds are regularly being offered to SAQ to be rehomed and/or adopted. Most of the horses offered have not been broken to saddle, but are very easy to re-educate by anyone with some experience, commonsense and lots of patience. The temperament of the breed in general makes the Standardbred suitable for almost any use and they are easily handled by a sensible beginner.

If you will need assistance to re-start your Standardbred under saddle, SAQ can provide the names of some local trainers who are familiar with the re-education of Standardbreds. We also have several registered re-trainers who we are able to send unstarted horses to for basic training under saddle.

The horses are retired from or are unsuitable for Harness Racing for many reasons. Some are just not fast enough, others may have minor injuries. Your intended use will influence the type of horse that is suitable. Many minor injuries, which prevent a horse from racing, do not re-occur in the less stressful situations of retirement homes.

All horses adopted through SAQ are placed on a free lease probationary period basis under an adoption contract for the first 12 months.

During this period, all up keep of the Standardbred (including vet bills, farriery, worming etc) is the responsibility of the Adopter.

During the first 12 months the Adopter will also be required to do a 3 month update, which includes sending

photos of the horse, as well as undertake two well-being checks (one at 6 months & one at 12 months) performed by a vet.

These checks are to ensure the wellbeing of the horse and the cost is to be met by the Adopter. If for any reason during this time, the horse is found to be unsuitable, or your circumstances change, it is simply a matter of contacting the SAQ Horse Placement Officer to organise putting the horse back through the Rehoming & Adoption Program for re-adoption.

An Adoption Contract must be signed upon taking possession of a horse - and you must agree that the horse is never raced again. At completion of the Lease Period, if all parties are satisfied, full ownership of the horse will then be transferred to you.

Please Note: as horses are donated by Owners/Trainers, the SAQ has made a decision that horses are NOT to be raced or used for commercial purposes such as riding schools etc.

WHAT SAQ OFFERS QLD HARNESS TRAINERS AND OWNERS WANTING TO REHOME THEIR STANDARDBRED

- A second chance for their horses to find their niche in other disciplines aside from racing.
- The confidence of knowing that their horses have been placed in caring, non-commercial homes - with care, knowledge and support provided by SAQ.
- Trainers will receive a quarterly report, with photos, and updates about the horses, in their new homes (if requested*).
- Copies of vet check paperwork and Certificates, required by SAQ (if requested*).
- Ongoing communication and support between SAQ, Trainers and SAQ members/Adopters.
- Option to receive the SAQ Quarterly Newsletter.

** Some Conditions may apply*

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information on SAQ's Rehoming & Adoption Program, please contact Melissa Bell (SAQ Horse Placement Officer) at horseplacement@saq.com.au or on 0412 973 102.



Standardbred Association
Queensland

HORSE PLACEMENT FLOWCHART

SAQ'S HORSE PLACEMENT PROCEDURE FLOWCHART

1. HPP Officer receives phone call/email from Owner Trainer. Brief details of horse for donation received and Horse Placement Program details/process explained to Owner/Trainer.

2. HPP Officer emails Owner "Horse to Rehome/Donation Contract" (or downloaded from the SAQ Website). Owner completes and returns to HPP Officer with requested photos of horse.

3A. If required, HPP Officer contacts Foster Carers or Retrainers to ascertain availability and organises horse to be picked up from owners property.

3. HPP Officer ascertains whether donated horse is able to stay with owner until a suitable home is obtained or whether it requires a foster home until adopted and/or retraining.

3B. Horse is moved to Foster Carers/Retrainers. Assessment, Rehabilitation or Retraining Required will determine when the horse is advertised or available for Adoption.

4. HPP Officer checks Brand & Horse Details with the HRA Website.

6. HPP Officer checks Adoption Waiting List and contacts any suitable potential Adopters from existing waiting list.

5. HPP Officer enters Horse and Owner Details into SAQ Adoption Database and designs Promotion Adoption Ad for internal records and further use.

7. If no suitable match is found, HPP Officer uploads Adoption Ad onto SAQ Website and advertises in SAQ Facebook Group.

8. Potential Adopter calls/emails regarding further details and horse suitability.

10. If application has been received and approved - Horse owner/trainer details given to potential approved Adopter to obtain further information regarding suitability and to organise to inspect the horse.

9. HPP Officers emails potential Adopter "Adoption Application Form" (or instructs to download from SAQ website) and Adopter submits to HPP Officer for consideration/approval and recommendations.

9A. If potential Adopter is not matched to an adoption horse, they are placed on a waiting list to be contacted when a suitable horse becomes available.

**CONTINUE
TO PAGE 2**

FROM PAGE 1

11. Potential approved Adopter contacts owner/trainer to organise a time to visit and view the horse and to ascertain whether they are suitable.

12. Potential approved Adopter contacts HPP Officer to confirm suitability of viewed horse.

14. If approved, Adoption Contract and Invoice is drawn up by HPP Officer and emailed to approved Adopter (SAQ Treasurer included in email).

13. If horse is suitable, HPP Officer contacts owner/trainer to ascertain suitability and seek approval for adoption.

12A. If horse is not suitable, potential Adopter is then referred to other suitable horses or placed on the waiting list if no other suitable horses available.

15. Approved Adopter returns signed Adoption Contract and Horse Placement Payment.

16. HPP Officer signs off Adoption Contract and sends copy to Adopter along with New Adoption Booklet and 3-month check paperwork - giving Adopter approval to organise to pick up the horse from owner.

19. HPP Officer notifies Horse Owner that all Adoption Paperwork/Payment has been received & approved.

18. HPP Officer updates Membership Database and notifies SAQ Secretary of new members details for Ratification & Membership Card.

17. HPP Officer updates Horse Adoption Database to reflect steps that have been completed.

20. Adopter contacts Owner/trainer to organise a suitable pick up time

21. Adopter picks up new adopted horse and notifies HPP Officer of said horse's arrival to their property.

17A. Updated Adoption Database placed in Dropbox for Horse Welfare Team.

22. 3-month photos and update received from Adopter to Horse SAQ Welfare Officer and details added to horse file and database. Adoption database updated to reflect progress - *follow up if not received by due date or any concerns with update.*

21A. Horse Welfare Team contact new Adopter within 2 weeks to ascertain how the horse is settling in.

(NOTE: the Horse Welfare Team perform random Welfare Spot Checks during the 12-month Adoption Probation Period).

**CONTINUE
TO PAGE 3**

FROM PAGE 2

23. 6-month photos and vet check received and details added to horse file and database - *follow up if not received by due date or any concerns with update.* Adoption Database updated to reflect progress.



24. 12-month photos and vet check received and details added to horse file and database - *follow up if not received by due date or any concerns with update.* Adoption Database updated to reflect progress.

26. Horse Registration/new owner details form sent to Horse Registrar to complete Horse Registration Card and Certificate for new owner.



25. If all contractual obligations are satisfactorily completed, transfer of ownership proceeds and ratified and signed off at next SAQ Committee Meeting.



26A. Horse Registrar completes Horse Registration Card and Certificate and posts to new owner. Horse Registration Database updated to reflect new horse owner.

27. HPP Officer posts Transfer of Ownership and Congratulations Letter to new owner.



28. Adoption Database updated to reflect Transfer of Ownership and confirm Adoption Probation Period has been completed.



**PROCEDURE TO REHOME
ONE (1) STANDARD BRED
IS COMPLETE.**



Standardbred Association
Queensland

OWNERS/TRAINERS EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

INFORMATION PACK

Standardbred Association Queensland Inc. Horse Placement Program

Specialising in placing Standardbreds retired from racing into non-racing, pleasure & performance homes

How Does the SAQ Horse Placement Program Work?

The SAQ currently has members wanting to adopt a Standardbred retired from racing.

The horse does not need to be started under saddle prior to adoption, and the SAQ has contacts for members to forward their Standardbreds to, if they are not confident enough to start the horse under saddle themselves. However most SAQ members find that Standardbreds are so willing, sensible and trainable, that with a little common sense and patience, most have no trouble starting their own Standardbreds under saddle. The SAQ is always there for support and advice for members.

Simply contact Melissa Bell on 0412 973 102 to discuss horses you may have available for adoption. We will ask you to provide details of the horse eg height, age, colour, location etc. Alternatively, you can complete the attached Horse Adoption Assistance Form and email to horseplacement@saq.com.au or post to PO Box 348, Rosewrod, QLD 4340.

The SAQ will discuss the horse with a prospective adopter and match a horse with an adoptive owner.

What can the SAQ offer QLD Harness Trainers

- A second chance for your horses to find their niche in other disciplines aside from racing.
- The confidence of knowing that your horses have been placed in caring, non-commercial homes, with care, knowledge and support from the SAQ.

- Trainers will receive a quarterly report, with photos, and updates about the horses, in their new homes if requested.*
- Copies of vet check paperwork and Certificates, required by the SAQ if requested.*
- Ongoing communication and support between the SAQ, Trainers, and SAQ members/Adopters.
- Option to receive the SAQ Newsletter which is published every second month.

* Some Conditions may apply

ABOUT THE SAQ

The Standardbred Association Queensland Inc (SAQ) was founded in 1998, and was primarily established as the States Standardbred Breed Society. It became evident that there was a shortfall for opportunities for Standardbreds retiring from racing, with a large majority of them finding themselves in slaughter yards.

In 2002, the SAQ started their Adoption and Rehoming Program, which was the first Not for Profit Association in Queensland to focus specifically on retraining and rehoming retired racehorses.

Over the past 16 years, the program has steadily grown along with the racing industry's awareness of the importance of retirement options for its retired athletes, and we have rehomed almost 1000 Standardbreds through our adoption program.





Standardbred Association
Queensland

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Standardbred Association Queensland Inc. Horse Placement Program

I would like:

☐

the SAQ Horse Placement Officer or other SAQ committee member to contact me for further information

☐

to put a horse up for adoption through the SAQ Horse Placement Program

OWNER/TRAINER INFORMATION

Contact Name:

.....

Address:

.....

.....

.....

Telephone:

.....

Mobile:

.....

Email Address:

.....

HORSE INFORMATION (if applicable)

Name:

.....

Height:

.....

Age:

.....

Colour:

.....

Injuries (Y/N):

.....

If YES, please provide details:

.....

Reason for retirement/other information:

.....

.....

Please forward your completed Expression of Interest Form to:

Contact: Melissa Bell (Horse Placement Officer)

Phone: 0412 973 102

Mail: PO Box 348, Rosewood QLD 4340

Email: horseplacement@saq.com.au

Web: www.saq.com.au



Standardbred Association
Queensland



Standardbred Association
Queensland

HORSE TO REHOME APPLICATION



Standardbred Association
Queensland

HORSE TO REHOME

Standardbred Association Queensland Inc. Horse to Rehome Application Form

DETAILS OF HORSE FOR REHOMING

Horse Race Name:

Horse Stable Name:

Age: Sex: Brand:

If a mare, has she previously had any foals? **YES** **NO** If YES, how many?

Horse Colour (including white markings):

Height Location:

Last known trainer (name & contact phone number):

Why was this horse retired?

Does this horse have any known health issues/injuries (ie bleeder, tendon, roarer etc)?

Does this horse have any significant conformation issues (ie club foot, roach back etc)?

Does this horse have any known vices (ie windsucking/kicking etc)?

Describe the horse's ground manners (leading, standing still etc):

Does the horse tie up safely? **YES** **NO**

Does the horse have any known issues loading/floating?

Can the horse be paddocked safely with other horses? **YES** **NO**

Has the horse been ridden previously? **YES** **NO**



HORSE TO REHOME

Standardbred Association Queensland Inc. Horse to Rehome Application Form

Has the horse been exposed to dogs/farm animals/machinery/vehicles/small children?

Does the horse behave for the farrier? **YES** **NO** Details:

Is the horse currently shod? **YES** **NO**

Last known worming:

Last known dental check-up:

Last known vaccination (if any):

Any other relevant information:

I declare that to the best of my knowledge the above information is a true and accurate description of the Standardbred horse

(insert horse's name here)

Print Name:

Signature: Date:

HORSE TO REHOME

Standardbred Association Queensland Inc. Horse to Rehome Application Form

TERMS & CONDITIONS

- *I have read and agree to the accompanying Information Sheet.*
- *I agree that upon entry into the SAQ Adoption Program, my horse will be de-registered for racing purposes. I acknowledge this de-registration cannot be reversed.*
- *I agree to be contacted by the chosen retrainer should they wish to speak with me about my horse.*
- *I agree that should my horse be found to have physical or psychological issues which render it unsuitable for re-educating, it will be returned to me.*
- *I agree that at the conclusion of its re-education, my horse will be placed into a suitable home on a 12-month adoption agreement, to be returned to the SAQ Adoption Program for rehoming should it no longer be required by the adoptee.*
- *I understand that while SAQ takes all reasonable measures to ensure the health, wellbeing and safety of horses enlisted in the SAQ Adoption program, it cannot be held responsible for my horse's care, either during its retraining or after being rehomed.*

Print Name:

Address:

Phone: Email:

Signature: Date:

Please forward your completed Horse to Rehome Application Form to:

Contact: Melissa Bell (Horse Placement Officer)

Phone: 0412 973 102

Mail: PO Box 348, Rosewood QLD 4340

Email: horseplacement@saq.com.au



Standardbred Association
Queensland

HORSE ADOPTION ENQUIRY



Standardbred Association
Queensland

STANDARD BRED ASSOCIATION QUEENSLAND INC.

PLEASURE AND PERFORMANCE HORSE ASSOCIATION QLD

✉ PO Box 348, ROSEWOOD QLD 4340

🌐 www.saq.com.au

HORSE ADOPTION PROGRAM - PERSON WANTING A HORSE

DATE:

NAME:

ADDRESS:

..... PCODE:

EMAIL:

TELEPHONE: MOBILE:

IF NOT ADULT, WHAT IS AGE OF PERSON HORSE IS FOR:

GENDER PREFERRED:GELDINGMARE

HEIGHT:HH PACERTROTTER (not guaranteed)

OTHER SPECIFICATIONS

.....

REASON FOR WANTING HORSE:

PLEASURE RIDING

ENDURANCE.....

DRESSAGE.....

SHOWING.....

EVENTING.....

PLEASURE HARNESS.....

JUMPING.....

OTHER.....

CAN RE-EDUCATE HORSE YOURSELFYESNO

HAVE FACILITIES TO CARE FOR HORSE

.....

HAVE KNOWLEDGE TO CARE FOR HORSE

.....

.....

OTHER INFORMATION.....

.....



Standardbred Association
Queensland

HORSE ADOPTION APPLICATION



Standardbred Association
Queensland

HORSE ADOPTION APPLICATION

Standardbred Association Queensland Inc. Horse Adoption Program

Important Information

Standardbreds are regularly being offered through the SAQ Inc. Horse Adoption Program to good homes. Most of the horses offered have not been broken to saddle, but are very easy to re-educate by anyone with some experience, common sense and patience. The temperament of the breed makes the Standardbred suitable for almost any use, and they are easily handled by a sensible beginner.

If you need assistance to re-start your Standardbred under saddle, the SAQ may be able to provide you with names of some people who are familiar with the re-education of Standardbreds or we can organise to send them to one of our registered re-trainers.

The horses are retired from racing, or are unsuitable for racing for many reasons; some are just not fast enough, others may have minor injuries. Your intended use will influence the type of horse that is suitable. Many minor injuries which prevent a horse from racing, do not re-occur in the less stressful situations of retirement homes.

All horses adopted through the SAQ are placed on an adoption contract for the first 12 months. During this period, all upkeep of the horse (including vet bills, farriery, worming etc) is the responsibility of the adoptee. During the first 12 months the adoptee will be required to complete a 3 month update which include photos, and have two "Well-being" checks (one at 6 months and one at 12 months) performed by a vet. These checks are to ensure the wellbeing of the horse and the cost is to be met by the adoptee. If, for any reason during this

time, the horse is found to be unsuitable, or your circumstances change and you are no longer able to care for the horse - it is simply a matter of contacting the SAQ Horse Placement Officer to organise for the horse to be re-adopted.

An Adoption contract must be signed upon taking possession of a horse, and you must agree that the horse will NOT be raced or used for commercial purposes such as riding schools etc. At completion of the adoption period, if all parties are satisfied, full ownership of the horse will be transferred to you.

Once you have returned this form, along with your membership application and horse placement fees of \$95.00 for unstarted Off the Track Standardbred or \$300.00 for started/retrained Standardbred, the Horse Placement Officer will note your details and advise you of any suitable horses. If you do secure a horse from another source, we ask that you inform the Horse Placement Officer. At times, it may take a while to locate 'the perfect horse', but when a horse needs a home it is often less than 24 hours that makes the difference between life and death.

Please answer the questions on the reverse of this form as honestly as possible as this information will enable us to select a horse that most suits your needs.

Completed forms and membership fees should be sent to: Horse Placement Officer SAQ Inc (PO Box 348 ROSEWOOD QLD 4340) or emailed (horseplacement@saq.com.au).

Online payment options are available on request - please contact Nicole Schuemann (webmaster@saq.com.au).





Standardbred Association
Queensland

HORSE ADOPTION APPLICATION

Standardbred Association Queensland Inc. Horse Adoption Program

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- All persons interested in adopting a horse from SAQ Inc. are required to complete this application in full
- All adopters must be 18 or older and financially and physically able to provide the proper care to the adopted horse. If under 18, please include 'parent information' to the personal and financial sections
- There is a adoption fee of \$95.00 for unstarted Off-the-Track Standardbred or \$300.00 for started/retrained Standardbred
- We accept payment by Cheque, Bank Deposit or Paypal (including Credit and Debit Card payment)
- Please mail, fax, or email your completed application form
- Your application will only be processed after payment is received

PERSONAL INFORMATION

(1) Full Name:

(2) Age/DOB:

(3) Height/Weight:

CONTACT INFORMATION/PARENTAL INFORMATION IF UNDER 18YRS OLD

(4) Home Address:

.....

.....

.....

(5) Home Phone:

(6) Work Phone:

(7) Mobile Number:

(8) Email Address:

(9) Parents Name:

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

(10) Where do you work?

(11) What is your occupation?

(12) Do you work full-time, part-time, or are you self-employed?

(13) If self-employed, please describe your profession?

.....

(14) What is your household's total annual income?

(15) Will there be anyone helping you pay for the care of the horse? If yes, please explain:

.....

.....

.....

.....



Standardbred Association
Queensland

HORSE ADOPTION APPLICATION

Standardbred Association Queensland Inc.
Horse Adoption Program

(16) How much do you estimate it will cost per year to own your adopted horse? Please explain:

HORSE EXPERIENCE AND HISTORY

(17) What is your experience with horses?

(18) Have you owned a horse before? If yes, please provide details:

(19) Do you currently own a horse? If yes, how many and please list the breed of each horse:

(20) What style of riding/driving do you practice? How many years?

(21) Do you have experience with training green horses? If yes, please explain:

HORSE ADOPTION APPLICATION

Standardbred Association Queensland Inc. Horse Adoption Program

(22) Have you ever trained an “off the track” Standardbred? **YES** **NO**

If yes, did you receive help from a professional trainer or did you do it on your own? Please specify:

YOU AND YOUR POTENTIAL ADOPTION HORSE

(23) Why do you want to adopt an ex-racehorse?

(24) What qualities would you like to have in a horse? (i.e. age, color, sex, size, temperament):

GENDER:	Mare	Gelding	Doesn't Matter	
AGE:	1-5yrs	5-10yrs	10yrs+	Doesn't Matter
SIZE:	<15hh	15-16hh	16hh+	Doesn't Matter

Any other details that may assist selection:

(25) How often do you want to ride/drive your horse?

(26) How would you rate your riding ability? **BEGINNER** **NOVICE** **INTERMEDIATE** **ADVANCED**

(27) Do you have a trainer? If yes, please provide his/her name and contact information:

(28) Will there be anyone else riding the horse? If yes, please detail their experience:



Standardbred Association
Queensland

HORSE ADOPTION APPLICATION

Standardbred Association Queensland Inc.
Horse Adoption Program

(29) If you have an unforeseen life event (i.e. loss of job, divorce, illness, pregnancy), what would your plan be for your adopted horse?

(30) When would you like to adopt?

BOARDING/PRIVATE FACILITY INFORMATION

(31) Please provide the name, address, and phone number of the boarding facility or private farm where the horse will stay:

(32) Do you live at the facility? **YES** **NO**

(33) If you DO NOT live at the facility, what is the monthly board fee? What does it cover?

(34) If you DO live at the facility, what do you anticipate paying a month to care for the horse?

(35) How many horses are currently at the facility?

(36) Does the facility have pasture? If yes, how many grazing acres in total?

BOARDING/PRIVATE FACILITY INFORMATION

(37) How many times per day will your adopted horse be fed? Please explain:

(38) Who will be responsible for feeding the horse:



HORSE ADOPTION APPLICATION

Standardbred Association Queensland Inc. Horse Adoption Program

(39) Based on your experience, how much grain and hay per day do you think the horse will need?

.....

.....

.....

(40) Will your horse have access to grass pasture? **YES** **NO**

(41) How often will you de-worm your adopted horse?

(42) What annual vaccinations will your horse receive? Please list:

.....

.....

.....

(43) Do you have a farrier? If yes, please provide his/her name and contact information:

.....

.....

(44) What is your planned farrier schedule?

(45) Do you have a horse vet? If yes, please provide his/her name and contact information:

.....

.....

Full Name:

Signature: **Date:**

Parent's Signature (if under 18yrs):

HORSE ADOPTION CHECKLIST

Before returning your application, please ensure that you have completed the following:

- o Membership Application Form*
- o Horse Adoption Application*
- o Forms completed (including signature and date) and attached.*
- o Membership Fees payment included (if not an existing member)*

Payment can be made by Cheque, Bank Deposit or Paypal (including Credit and Debit Card payment). All cheques to be made payable to "SAQ Inc". If you require online payment options, please contact Nicole Schuemann (webmaster@saq.com.au).

Completed forms and membership fees should be sent attention to the Horse Placement Officer at the contact details listed below.

APPLICABLE FEES

Horse Adoption Fee:

- o \$95.00 for unstarted Off the Track Standardbred*
- or*
- o \$300.00 for started/retrained Standardbred*

AND

Membership Fee:

- o Single \$50 (yearly)*
- or*
- o Family \$75 (yearly)*

Please note that 2 years membership needs to be paid when adopting and Membership/Adoption Fees can be submitted in a single payment. For example: \$100 Single Membership (for two years) + \$95 Adoption Fee for an unstarted Off the Track Standardbred = \$195 total.

Please forward your completed Horse Adoption Application and Membership Application to:

Contact: Melissa Bell (Horse Placement Officer)
Phone: 0412 973 102
Mail: PO Box 348, Rosewood QLD 4340
Email: horseplacement@saq.com.au



Standardbred Association
Queensland

SAQ NEW MEMBER HORSE ADOPTION



Standardbred Association
Queensland

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Standardbred Association Queensland Inc. New Membership/Horse Placement Form

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Title: First Name: Surname:

Other Family SAQ Members Names:

Address:

Home Phone:

Mobile Number:

Email Address:

Date/s of Birth:

Office Use Only

Member Number:

Fee Paid:

Date Processed:

Other Correspondence:

Eg Horse Placement/Rego etc

Entered to Database:

Approved Sig:

MEMBERSHIP FEES (PLEASE TICK APPLICABLE)

Family (\$75) ☐ Single (\$50) ☐ Junior - Under 18yrs (\$35) ☐ Adoption Fee (per horse) ☐

Joining Fee (once only fee – waived during 2018): \$ NIL

Horse Placement Fee (per adopted horse):
• \$95.00 for *unstarted Off the Track Standardbred*
• \$300.00 for *started/retrained Standardbred*
\$

Membership Fee (minimum 2 years membership for Horse Adoption): \$

TOTAL FEES PAYABLE: \$

Previous Club Memberships:

Signature/s: Date:

Members under 18 years must be countersigned by a parent or guardian

DISCLAIMER:

The SAQ Inc. will not be responsible for any accident that may occur to any member, associate or guest at any function or ride. The SAQ Inc members shall hold the SAQ Inc harmless and indemnify it against any legal proceedings arising out from any incident. The Committee, whose decision is final, shall determine any matter arising, not specifically provided for in the foregoing. The SAQ Inc Committee has the right to suspend anyone from riding if they are unable to control their horse. The SAQ do not guarantee the quality, condition, temperament or appropriateness of the horses placed in our horse placement program. The final selection and decision to take a horse is the responsibility of the individual member and/or their relevant guardian.

Payment can be made by Cheque, Bank Deposit or Paypal (including Credit and Debit Card payment). All cheques to be made payable to "SAQ Inc". If you require online payment options, please contact Nicole Schuemann (webmaster@saq.com.au).

Completed forms and membership fees should be sent attention to the SAQ Secretary:

✉ PO Box 348, ROSEWOOD QLD 4340

✉ secretary@saq.com.au



Standardbred Association
Queensland

SAQ HORSE FLOAT LOAN FORM

SAQ HORSE ADOPTION PROGRAM HORSE FLOAT LOAN FORM

The purpose of this agreement is to limit the liability of the Provider to exclude liability for any personal injury or death to the Borrower and other people in the care and control of the Borrower howsoever caused who signed this form as acknowledgment of the terms and conditions of this agreement. By signing this form you are waiving your rights to sue the Provider for losses relating to personal injury or death. Under the provisions of the Trade Practices Act and Various State Laws conditions are implied into contracts that mean that the Provider of Recreational Services, noted below, is required to ensure that the Recreational Services it provides to you are: rendered with due care and skill, are fit for the purpose for which they are commonly bought as it is reasonable to expect in the circumstances or might reasonably be expected to achieve the result you have made known to the Provider.

Name and address of Provider: Standardbred Association of Queensland Incorporated
P O Box 348
Rosewood, QLD 4340

This Agreement Is Made on the.....(Date)

Between the Owner.....**Standardbred Association of Queensland Inc....PO Box 348, Rosewood QLD 4340....**

And the Borrower.....
(Name & Address)

.....
.....

Phone: Drivers Licence No: Exp Date:

Please note you will require the following to use the SAQ Horse Placement Program Horse Float:

- valid Driver's Licence
- Vehicle Insurance and Registration

For The Loan Of..... Nandor 2 HSL Horse Float Registration # 018UDF.....

The Horse Float Is to Be Used for.....
(State Purpose)

And Not For Hire or Reward or Private use that is not for the purpose relating to transporting an SAQ Adoption Program Horse

1) The Loan Period Will Start On..... And Continue for A Period Of 24 hours
Until..... When the Loan Agreement May Be:

- a) Extended for A Period of Time Agreed Between the Owner & the Borrower OR
- b) The Horse Float Is to Be Returned to The Owner by the specified date.

2) The Borrower Must Accept and Understand that the Horse Float Must Be:

- a) Promptly Returned to the pickup address of:
- b) Payment and Repair of any damages made to the Horse Float during the loan period made by the borrower.
- c) Notify the Owner of Any Damage to the Horse Float during the Loan Period.
- d) Ensuring That the Horse Float is returned cleaned, and in the same condition as it was when picked up from the owner.
- e) Carrying the Inherent Risk of Driving the Horse Float and Travelling with a Horse, The Owner Cannot Be Held Responsible for any damages to personal or public property, or any personal injury or death to the Borrower and other people.

Name.....C/- SAQ Inc Committee Position.....
(C/Owner – SAQ Inc – Committee Member)

Signed..... Date.....

Name.....
(Borrower)

Signed..... Date.....

OFFICE USE ONLY

Drivers Licence Sighted:

Date Horse Float Returned:

Horse Float Inspected on return:

Horse Float returned clean:

No damages to the Returned Horse Float:



Standardbred Association
Queensland

ADOPTER INFORMATION HANDBOOK



**Standardbred Association
Queensland**

STANDBRED ASSOCIATION QUEENSLAND INC. PLEASURE AND PERFORMANCE HORSE ASSOCIATION QLD

✉ PO Box 348, ROSEWOOD QLD 4340

🌐 www.saq.com.au

Horse Adoption Program

Specialising in placing Standardbreds retired from racing into non racing, pleasure and performance homes.



Adoptee Information Handbook



Thank you for adopting your new Standardbred from the SAQ Horse Adoption Program and giving this horse a second chance!

SAQ has matched nearly 1000 Standardbreds with loving families over the past 16 years, giving us the experience and knowledge to make your adoption a success. We hope your family and new Standardbred will be very happy together!

If you need advice or guidance along the way, or simply want to let us know how your adopted horse is settling in, please use the following information to guide you or to reach us.

Adoption Paperwork

When you adopted your Standardbred, you received paperwork with important information about your adopted Standardbred, including records and information about the adoption process. We encourage you to keep this paperwork in a safe place along with your other important papers. All necessary Update and Welling Check forms can be downloaded from our website www.saq.com.au.

Contact SAQ Adoption Officers

If you have immediate questions, we encourage you to look through this handbook. Most common questions—such as Bringing your Standardbred home, feeding and retraining—can be found in this handbook. If you have questions that aren't answered in this guide, please **call Melissa Bell on**

0412 973 102 or send an email to message horseplacement@saq.com.au

Find us on Facebook

A popular Standardbred Group on the Facebook, Standardbred Association Qld, and Standardbred Association Qld – Horse Placement Program, with over 1000 members and growing daily! A friendly place to discuss everything Standardbred, from Pleasure Riding to Harness Racing or just sharing your experiences and photos. There is a big Standardbred following on these groups and everyone has their own experiences to help you with advice, training tips, health advise and lots more!

SAQ Horse Placement Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/170440399683716/>

Standardbred Association Qld – General Page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/68933654978/>

Share your story

When a Standardbred retires from Harness Racing, and leaves his "Training Stable" for his or her 'new beginning' we feel great joy for the horse and their new family.

But it doesn't end there for us. It makes our day when we hear how our Adoption Program Standardbreds are getting on in their new adopted homes.

We'd love to know how things are going, and hope you'll keep in touch as you and your adopted Standardbred settle into your forever life together. Your story may even be chosen for an issue of our Newsletter!

There are many ways you can reach us with your updates:

- E-mail us with photos, links to video and details of your adventures together
- Post a message on our Facebook group, or send a private message
- Post photos and stories via mail: SAQ PO Box 348. Rosewood, Qld 4340

We very much hope your adoption experience with SAQ Horse Adoption Program has been a positive one! If you'd like to continue supporting us, we'd encourage you to explore other ways to get involved such as volunteering, becoming a registered foster carer, or participating in one of our many events.

We look forward to seeing your progress and hope to see you and your Adopted Standardbred out and about in the near future!

Reminder: during the 12 Month adoption period the following conditions apply (please refer to your adoption contract for full terms and conditions:

- the horse remains the property of SAQ Inc. the horse cannot be sold, given away or in any way transferred to another person.
- You are required to complete a 3 month update and photos, and two wellbeing checks at your own expense – the first wellbeing check is required at 6 months, the second at 12 months. It is the adoptees responsibility to ensure all 3 month photos and updates, and 6 & 12 month checks are completed and returned to the SAQ Horse Welfare Officer by the due date. Forms can be downloaded from the SAQ website www.saq.com.au . Overdue checks will impose a \$50 penalty fee payable by the adoptee.
- the adoptee must remain a current financial member of SAQ for a period of 2 years from the initial adoption date. Annual Membership falls due by 1st October each year.
- if for any reason the horse is unsuitable, or your circumstance change and you are no longer able to care for the horse, contact the SAQ Horse Placement Officer immediately. We will endeavour to rehome the horse as soon as possible within approximately 6 weeks. However, rehoming can depend on location, availability of new adopting owners etc. If you are going to be unable to look after the horse until it can find a new adoption home, you will need to meet transport costs to return the horse to temporary accommodation as advised by SAQ. Otherwise, you will continue to be responsible for the care of the horse until a new home is found.



BRINGING YOUR STANDARDBRED HOME

Congratulations on recently acquiring a Standardbred - You have made a great choice! You will have a friend for life when you own a Standardbred. Much like a faithful pet dog, you will find your Standardbred will want to please you in return for a happy enjoyable life.

There are many handbooks on the care and feeding of horses, but think about these points, and do realise that **CARE IS NOT OPTIONAL**:

- ♦ **Home:** Options for horse accommodation range from full board at an agistment centre (costs usually include feed and use of facilities such as arenas and round yards) with constant supervision, through to your own paddock outside your backdoor and you purchase the feed. Regardless of how much you pay, **the horse must have adequate space, safe fencing, water and feed available at all times and some form of shelter. At the very least, you must be prepared to visit your horse daily, 7 days a week, or have someone available who can see the horse.** It's surprising the number of ways that horses can find to get themselves into trouble.
- ♦ **Water and Food:** Horses **MUST ALWAYS** have fresh water available – a 10 litre bucket in a corner of the paddock is NOT sufficient! While most Standardbreds are considered to be "good doers", they still need a certain amount of food and if it's not growing in the paddock (and even then you need to take into consideration the type of grass, total area, and excessively dry or wet conditions), it has to be bought from the feed store. Feeding is an art in itself, and will depend upon the horse's size, the amount of work he is doing and the best types of feed to use in a ration. (See "Choosing the Right Feed for Your Horse" to follow in this guide for feeding guidelines.)
- ♦ **Worming: Required approximately every 8 to 10 weeks.** Commercial wormers are readily available from saddleries and feed stores. There are different types of active ingredients in wormers, and you will need to educate yourself as to the most appropriate type for your horse as well as understanding the need to "rotate" different active ingredients to avoid parasite resistance. Pasture management can also be incorporated into managing internal parasites. (See "Choosing the Right Feed for Your Horse" to follow in this guide for further worming guidelines.)
- ♦ **Farrier:** Depending on weather and season, and how much wear the local ground causes, you need to have **the hooves trimmed and/or re-shod every six – eight weeks or so.**
- ♦ **Vaccination:** It is absolutely **essential to vaccinate against tetanus every year**, because even a minor cut can kill horribly if dirt gets into it. Annual vaccination against strangles is also highly recommended – both can be given in one injection. Tetanus and strangles vaccine are available through retail saddleries for self-administration; otherwise, you will need to pay for your vet to come and vaccinate your horse. Hendra vaccinations are not compulsory and it is up to the adoptee to determine if this vaccination is necessary i.e. if in a bat area, personal preference.
- ♦ **Dentist:** Horses' teeth continue to grow and can become too sharp for the horse to eat or to have a bit in its mouth. **Teeth therefore need to be checked at least annually by a qualified horse dentist.**
- ♦ **Rugging:** Depending on where you are, winter can be cold or not, and your paddocks may have good windbreaks and shelters - or not. You need to get and use at least one rug and perhaps two, depending on the horse and local conditions. Your friend needs to be as comfortable as you are. **Rugs MUST be checked at least twice a day, and you will need to rug appropriate to the weather conditions – over-rugging can be just as bad as under-rugging.** A fly mesh or light cotton rug may be necessary for horses susceptible to Qld Itch or sensitive to biting insects.
- ♦ **Medical care:** Horses have accidents and horses get sick. You can learn to deal with a lot of minor cuts and scratches yourself, and you'll be amazed how the experience bonds you both. But, when in doubt, **YOU MUST CALL A VET** and you will need to keep some money in reserve for such emergencies. (See "Vital Signs of Horses" to follow in this guide for further helpful guidelines.)

CHOOSING THE RIGHT FEED FOR YOUR HORSE

1. Pinpoint exactly why you want to feed your horse more than just forage - There must be a reason why you want to feed your horse something extra. It could be that he is losing weight, that the pasture in the paddock is running out, his coat is becoming dull, he is overweight, but you don't feel the diet you are restricting him too is keeping him healthy, he is chewing on strange objects or eating manure, he feels flat when you are riding him or his hooves are brittle and breaking up. For every one of these scenarios there is a different feed you could be using. Examples of suitable feeds for these scenarios are:

Scenario	Type of Feed to Consider
Horse is losing weight	A high energy feed with quality protein
Pasture in the paddock is running out	Hay
Coat is dull	Depends on the reason why the coat is dull. Some options include: Oil with the essential omega 6 fatty acid; a vitamin and mineral supplement; good quality protein
Horse is overweight	Low quality hay plus a low dose rate vitamin and mineral supplement
Horse is chewing on strange objects or eating manure	Again, this depends on the reason why the horse is chewing things. A few options are: Hay, to increase fibre intake; A salt lick; vitamin and mineral supplement
Horse feels flat when being ridden but is not injured or sick.	A grain based feed
Horses hooves are brittle and breaking up	Good quality protein and a hoof supplement containing biotin, organic zinc and methionine.

2. Use past experience to determine what type of feed is best – You really only have a few options when it comes to the type of feed you should use. You can either use a grain based feed (if you do use a grain based feed be sure to use one that contains steam flaked, extruded or micronised grains) or a non-grain based feed. Non-grain based feeds include those based on copra meal, soybean hulls, sunflower hulls and sugar beet pulp. Different types of feed are suitable for each individual horse. For example, older horses who have difficulty digesting fibrous feeds may benefit from a grain based or high fat diet, horses that get hyperactive on grain would be best on a non-grain diet, while endurance horses in full work would be better suited to a fibre based diet.

3. Calculate roughly how much you want to feed per day – The amount you want to feed per day will vary depending on your horse's specific situation. There are some examples below of different situations and estimated suitable amounts of feed for each horse:

Horse's Situation	Available Forage	Reason for feeding	Amount of Feed* or Supplement /day
Horse (500 kg) needing to gain weight	24 hour access to pasture or good quality hay	To supply additional protein and energy to encourage weight gain	Up to 4 kg/day

Horse (500 kg) needing to lose weight	Restricted access to mature grass hay (minimum 1 % of bodyweight)	To ensure requirement for essential vitamins and minerals are met	Less than 100 g/day
Horse (500 kg) in light work	24 hour access to pasture	To provide a small amount of energy as well as satisfy requirement for vitamins and minerals	Up to 1 kg/day
Horse (500 kg) in heavy work	Stabled with limited access to hay	To meet high energy requirement, provide quality protein and meet raised requirement for vitamins and minerals	Up to 5 kg/day
Old horse (500 kg) having difficulty maintaining weight during winter	24 hour access to good quality hay	To provide energy and good quality protein that will enable horse to maintain weight. Also needs to satisfy vitamin and mineral requirements	Up to 4 kg/day
Weanling (250 kg)	24 hour access to high quality pasture	To satisfy mineral requirements and supply some energy and protein for sound growth without causing a rapid growth rate.	Up to 2 kg/day
Lactating Mare (500 kg)	24 hours access to good quality pasture	To provide the energy, protein, vitamins and minerals that will allow her to maintain bodyweight and produce milk.	Up to 5 kg/day

***Feed refers to grain mixes or pellets, not hay or chaff.**

Your horse may not fit into one of these specific categories, but if you think about it you will find that you know roughly the right amount of feed to feed your horse to maintain its bodyweight and temperament on a level plane. If you don't know, experiment with different feeding levels to find the one where your horse maintains a consistent body weight and temperament. Remember though that your horse's optimum feeding level will change depending on the climate, his workload and the availability and quality of pasture and hay.

4. Think about how much time you have or want to spend feeding your horse – When feeding your horse there are two major paths you can take. The first is to carefully choose a range of raw ingredients and vitamin and mineral supplements and mix your horses feed yourself. The second option is to buy and feed a well formulated premixed feed. The first option is obviously going to be more time consuming, however, if both methods of feeding are carried out diligently either will provide you with good results.

- By Dr. Nerida Richards, Equilize Horse Nutrition.



The finish line is just the beginning

VITAL SIGNS OF HORSES



It is useful to be aware of the normal values for the vital signs of your horse. Variations from these values, particularly if they are associated with other signs of illness or injury, are an indicator that all is not well and you should seek veterinary advice.

The values below are the normal range for an adult, resting horse. Exercise and excitement can cause normal increases to these values.

Heart Rate: 30-40 beats a minute at rest (higher for younger horses). Take pulse from under the left side of the chest near the elbow. Over 80 at rest is a serious problem. Properly trimmed feet and movement will aid in the heart's performance at rest and at work.

Respiratory Rate: 12-20 beats per minute at rest. This rate should never exceed the heart pulse rate.

Internal Body Temperature: 37.5 degrees Celsius - if above 39 degrees Celsius, contact your veterinarian immediately. Non-breakable thermometers in the anus work best - just don't lose it. Some tie a cord to it and alligator clip it to horse's tail.

Capillary refill time: This is the time it takes for colour to return to a horse's gum tissue adjacent to its teeth after pressing and releasing with your finger. It should be 2 seconds or less.

Membrane colour: The colour of the mucus membranes of gums, conjunctiva (inner eye tissue) and inner lips of vulva should be salmon pink. Bright red, pale pink to white or bluish purple colouring indicate problems and a need to contact your vet.

Dehydration: The old skin pliability test: Just pinch or fold a flap of skin on neck and then quickly release it. It should immediately snap back into place. Failure to do so is evidence of dehydration. Find some water and some shade.

Excretions: The colour, consistency and volume of faeces and urine should be typical of your horse's usual excretions. Note any straining or failure to excrete.

Presence of gut sounds: Put your ear up to the belly and listen. If you hear noises (bubbling) then all is well. Absence of such gaseous activity is indicative of a problem in the gut.

If you pay attention to these vital signs, you can tell when your horse is in trouble and get help for it sooner and avoid lengthy and costly rehabilitations. Contact your vet if you have any concerns.

WORMING YOUR HORSE

There are a number of different species of parasitic worms that infect horses. These include: ascarids (roundworms); large and small strongyles; tapeworms; pinworms; thread worms; stomach bots and lungworms.

Worms irritate the gut lining and lead poor digestion and absorption of feed. Most worms live in the intestinal tract and release eggs that are passed out into the paddock in manure. Eggs will then hatch and larvae develop in the manure and pasture.

Horses grazing grass that has been contaminated with infected manure will ingest the larvae, which then develop into mature adult worms and perpetuate the infection.

How can I tell if my horse has worms?

Horses that have a high worm burden may develop some or all of the following signs:

- Poor coat condition
- Poor weight gain or weight loss
- Diarrhoea
- Colic
- Peritonitis

Tests can be run on faecal samples to assess the current worm burden of your horse and identify any resistance to worming products that may be occurring.

Basic Steps to good worm control

Below are some points to consider and suggested protocols for worming and pasture management.

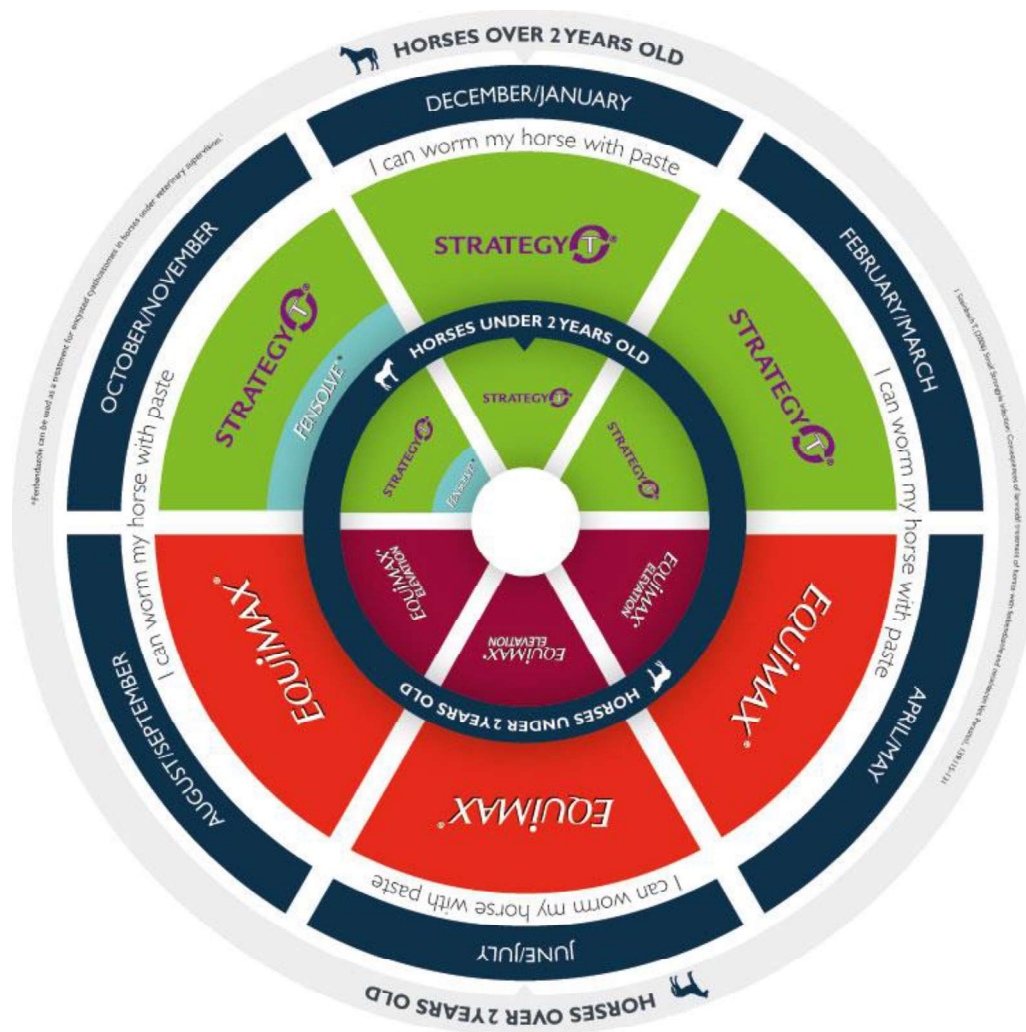
- Worm ALL horses on your property every 8-10 weeks (or as directed by the specific product label). This is especially important in Foals, Mares and yearlings, as these animals are most susceptible to infection. Foals should be first wormed at 6-8 weeks of age.
- DO NOT UNDERDOSE If possible, get an accurate weight on your horses by weighing them on scales or using a weight tape. If you are unable to weigh your horses, estimated weights should be rounded up to the nearest 50 kgs. All worming products have a wide safety margin, so it is safe to dose them a little higher. The use of sub-optimal doses of worming product will only promote the development of worms that are resistant to the worming products available. There are only a finite number of different worming product types. Once resistance is established, we will have no means of treating worm burdens.
- Regularly alternate the type of worming product used. This reduces the risk of resistance to particular products developing. When selecting products to alternate with, try and use ones that contain different drugs.

E.g. If you used Ammo Allwormer paste for horses, which contains Abamectin & Morantel Tartrate, 8 weeks later try Equest Plus Tape Long Acting Horse Wormer and Boticide Gel, which contains Praziquantel & Moxidectin. Followed by Equimax Oral Paste for Horses, which contains Abamectin & Praziquantel.

- Use feed bins. This will prevent contamination of feed with infective larvae from the pasture.
- Pick up manure from paddocks 1-2 times per week. This will reduce the number of infective larvae available to contaminate pasture.

- Spell Paddocks. Where possible, rotate the paddocks grazed, allowing them to spell for at least one month – Spelling paddocks will reduce the number of infective larvae in the pasture. This helps break the cycle of re-infection.
- Harrow paddocks after removal of horses. Infective larvae dry up and die when exposed to heat and sunlight. Harrowing paddocks breaks up the manure and exposes more of the infective larvae to the heat and sun. This helps to further reduce the number of infective larvae in the pasture and helps break the cycle of re-infection.
- Rotation grazing with sheep or cattle. This is another way of reducing the number of infective larvae in the pasture. Horses and sheep/cattle do not share the same types of parasitic worm species. By grazing cattle or sheep in paddocks, these animals ingest the infective larvae, but these larvae die and are therefore unable to reproduce. These animals therefore act to “clean up” the infective larvae from your pasture.
- Conduct routine faecal egg counts. Faecal egg counts can be performed on faecal samples collected from your horses. Egg counts allow us to assess the current worm burden and give us an indication as to whether the worming products and pasture management used are effectively controlling the worm burden in your horses. Regularly performing faecal egg counts (every 6 months) can allow you to strategically worm your horses, so may allow you to worm them less frequently.

By introducing as many of the above mentioned steps as possible, you will achieve good parasitic control, whilst minimising the development of resistance to worming products.



CONSIDERATIONS FOR RETRAINING THE STANDARDBRED

This article is reprinted from the Spring 2008 issue of Horsepower Magazine with the kind permission of editor Lauryn Gardini. Other articles on a wide range of horse care topics can be read online at www.horsepower.net.au and in each issue of Horsepower Magazine, available at your local newsagency.

From racetrack to arena – Training the horse for equestrian sports cannot be rushed. The horse must learn to change his thinking, be taught new aids, become accustomed to being ridden and remodel his body and carriage and develop muscle groups he's never used before!

Re-training the racehorse takes time and patience. It also takes an experienced, knowledgeable and confident handler, and one who understands that the ex-racehorse behaves as it does because of its previous training – or lack of it, in terms of training the horse for equestrian pursuits!

Before training is commenced, some owners like to turn the horse out. Many racehorses often haven't had the opportunity of regular turnout, and so aren't used to life as a 'regular horse'. It is said that horses straight off the track generally take about three months to adjust to a new diet, environment, and to rid his body of any drugs that may have been in his system. Depending on the horse, some horses are started under saddle as soon as the horse is comfortable in his surroundings. Some are spelled for months. It depends on the opinion of the trainer as to what's best for the horse, which should be decided according to the individual horse's condition and health.

One thing is a must: a slow start. Horses off the track should be handled regularly and become accustomed to your routine. A calm, quiet and peaceful environment is best for any lessons, and ensure that good groundwork is established, and that the horse is fit for beginning his training before you saddle up! Start out slowly, and get to know the horse by walking him in hand, or starting out in very large circles on the lunge. Teaching voice aids can make the re-training process very easy, and the horse will need to get used to his new life – and his new owner!

Standardbreds are bred to trot and pace, and trained to do it at breakneck speed. The end result is a horse who requires extensive development – both mentally and physically. Re-training a trotter or pacer is possible with time, patience and a bit of experience behind you. Many pacers do have difficulty breaking into a trot. Many will pace when asked to canter – but bringing the horse back to basics and undoing some of the race training will help to start the horse as it should have been – and generally, as they are raced in harness, Standardbreds are mouthed, and yet are often not broken in or started under saddle. Going right back to the start gives you the opportunity to re-write training and overwrite any bad experiences the horse may have suffered in its early race training.

If you want to begin training a Standardbred from the track, apply the following principles – a calm and relaxed environment, getting the horse moving slowly, and encouraging the horse to become soft and responsive while working on rhythm and balance. Grid work and work over poles can help correct the rhythm and tempo of the gait, and in time the horse will learn that you're after a slow and steady gait, rather than the flat out racing trot or pace that used to be asked of him. In the case of the pacer, trot to canter transitions can be difficult to teach, as some trainers reprimand their horses for breaking gait. With time and patience, these problems can be fixed. Encourage the horse to canter freely, first on the lunge, and always reward them when they make an effort.

When it comes to retraining the Standardbred, it is important to take the following into consideration:

- ◆ Standardbreds are not used to being ridden for any length of time, and so carrying a saddle and rider may be strenuous, as the horse does not have the necessary muscle development that is required.
- ◆ Standardbreds are not required to turn tight corners or be flexible on the racetrack. In fact, most racehorses are like flat boards. Often they don't bend well at all – and should not be asked to flex or bend until they are comfortable.
- ◆ Circle work is very difficult for horses that are not accustomed to it. Starting out on straight lines with large sweeping turns will help the horse feel more comfortable under saddle.
- ◆ Lunge and teach voice commands so you can tie them in with aids. Always lunge on large circles – smaller ones will only make the stiff and inflexible horse very sore.

- ◆ Standardbreds will have no concept of leg aids when first started under saddle. The concept of your legs down by the horse's sides may make him uncomfortable, or even very nervous.
- ◆ A racehorse from the track cannot be expected to work in any kind of frame at any point in his early training. Don't push too hard early on, otherwise you will end up with a horse that is sore and uncomfortable.
- ◆ Ensure the horse is comfortable before starting circle work. You are aiming for the horse to move forward, build up muscles slowly, and gain balance and rhythm when under saddle.
- ◆ If any problems are encountered, including behavioural changes, take into consideration that the horse's lifestyle has changed dramatically. Always call a professional to check that the horse's back and muscles aren't sore.
- ◆ Keep in mind that Standardbreds don't understand your aids, and must learn what you are asking them for. They don't automatically know, and are not misbehaving if they can't understand the aids you have given!
- ◆ Good handling practices apply when handling all horses – especially ex-racehorses!
- ◆ Trail ride your new Standardbred as much as possible. This will settle your horse, under saddle, quickly. It will help strengthen your horse for riding and the bond, between you both, will form and grow.
- ◆ Lunge your Standardbred regularly. Lunging can be used to help your Standardbred get balanced, not to lean in, not to race around and, most importantly, to create and perfect your transitions.
- ◆ Also, make your training sessions "fun" for your horse. Flat work one day, a trail ride the next, then (say) lunging on another day. Even go out for walks together and see what you and your friend can get up to! Reward your Standardbred with hugs and pats and by stopping. If your Standardbred has truly tried hard and achieved what you have asked of it, the best reward is to finish up for the day.
- ◆ The Standardbred is a very honest horse, and horses love to play. So, enjoy your training, make it play time, not a chore. Good luck!

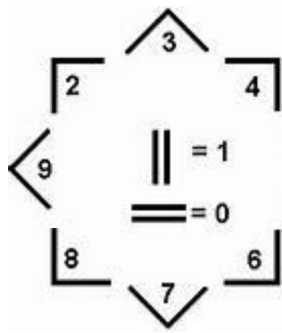
Basic equipment that you will need to get your horse working under saddle includes:

- Loose ring snaffle bit/Bridle
- Lunging roller
- Lunge rein and whip
- Saddle to suit the discipline of your choice and ideally fitted to your Standardbred
- Riding boots, do not attempt to ride in sneakers or other shoes
- An approved riding helmet

Standardbreds can and do make wonderful pleasure and show mounts. If you decide to re-train a racehorse yourself, take things slowly, ask an experienced trainer if you require assistance, and be prepared to take things one step at a time. Re-training doesn't happen overnight, but gradually, all of the lessons come together, and you will get to know your Standardbred as a pleasure horse, and hopefully as a happy and willing partner!



THE STANDARDBRED BRAND



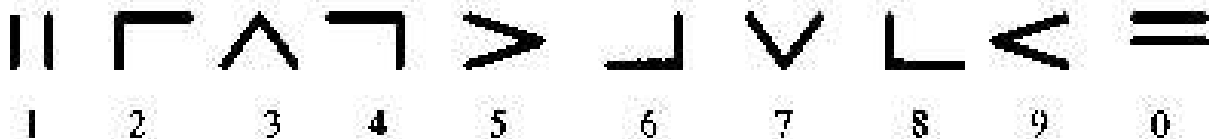
For registration purposes, all Standardbreds must be positively identified. In the US, this is done by a number tattooed on the inside of the lower lip, and in Australia and New Zealand it is done with code symbols freeze-branded high on the off side of the neck. If you want to identify your horse and learn about its breeding and racing history, not to mention register it for competition, you need to read the freeze-brand number. It is usually clear but not always, and you may have to clip the area to make it readable.

The code used in Australia (and elsewhere) is the Alpha Angle System, the structure of which can be seen on the left. New Zealand uses the "TVI" system, which has some similar symbols but with different meanings. Freeze branding was first introduced in New Zealand in 1970, and VIC, TAS, WA and QLD in 1978 with NSW last to change over in 1979.

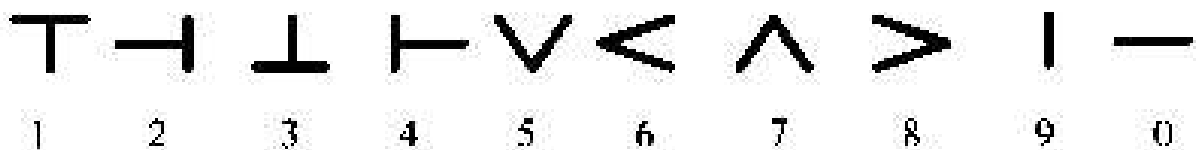
Since the freeze-branding program provides for branding when the foal is still with the dam, the system virtually guarantees the integrity of the brand.

When the system was first implemented in Australia, a single line of symbols were used. The first symbol denotes the state of breeding: 2 = NSW, 4 = QLD, 5 = SA, 6 = WA, 7 = TAS. The second symbol is the last digit of the year of foaling; for example, 9 can mean 1979, '89 or '99. The remaining four symbols are the registration number of the foal.

In the late 1980s, Australia changed over to a two-line brand, the first line commencing with an 'S' for Standardbred, followed by the digit for the state of foaling (postcode), then two digits for the year of foaling. The second four-digit line is the horse's registration number. This two line method is similar to that used in New Zealand, where the first line has the two digits of the year of foaling followed by a 'Z' for New Zealand, the second four-digit line being the horse's registration number.



Symbols used in Australian brands.

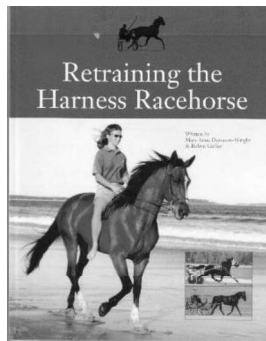


Symbols used in New Zealand brands.

When you have worked out the brand, go to the [search page of the Australian Harness Racing Council](#), enter the number and run a search. If the number is not totally clear, you may have to experiment with one or two digits to get a result. The site has remarkably complete information about the breeding and racing history of your Standardbred.

RESOURCES FOR RETRAINING

These are recommended as excellent sources of information on general horse ownership, and specifically for Standardbred retraining.



Retraining the Harness Racehorse. By Mary Anne Donovan-Wright & Robyn Cuffey.

THE book on retraining specifically geared to the Standardbred and their strengths and weaknesses. Includes chapters on:

- ◆ Selecting a horse
- ◆ The philosophy of retraining
- ◆ Training equipment
- ◆ Initial training from the ground
- ◆ Basic and advanced training
- ◆ Training the canter
- ◆ Standardbred success stories

Softcover (120pp). **PRICE \$42.50** incl GST & postage within Australia.

The following information is a sample of material available from **Horseproblems Australia**

www.horseproblems.com.au. Horseproblems Australia also have short advisory videos available via podcast or posted on YouTube, including "Mounting the STB for the First Time". Comments below provided by Horseproblems Australia.

RE-TRAINING THE STANDARDRED. Having watched this DVD, I have even more confidence in recommending these wonderful horses as replacements for the OTTB horses. Not only can they move better than most Thoroughbreds and half the Warmbloods but they are trainable and willing. This DVD shows with 5 horses, just how the correct principles of Dressage can get them cantering circles, in 5 days. 2 DVD set \$69.95 incl postage.

Also available: **MOUTHING THE HORSE.** Produced with the Novice in mind and explained in a step by step manner so that they can completely understand. 2 DVD set \$95 AU incl postage.

RIDING AND TRAINING THE 'GREEN' HORSE. From the first ride of the 'Breaker' through to hand over to the "Dressage Queen". 2 DVD set \$69.95 AU incl postage.

TRAINING THE LEG YIELD IN 2 DAYS. Comprehensive handling of the subject which re-habilitates an OTTB and starts a Breaker on the road to sophistication. If you cannot leg yield your horse well, you cannot canter

SAQ FACEBOOK GROUPS

2 popular Standardbred GroupS on the Facebook, Standardbred Association Qld, and Standardbred Association Qld – Horse Placement Program, with over 1000 members and growing daily! A friendly place to discuss everything Standardbred, from Pleasure Riding to Harness Racing or just sharing your experiences and photos. There is a big Standardbred following on these groups and everyone has their own experiences to help you with advice, training tips, health advice and lots more!

SAQ Horse Placement Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/170440399683716/>

Standardbred Association Qld – General Page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/68933654978/>

TRAINER/INSTRUCTOR/THERAPIST

The following list of trainers/therapist are not endorsed by the SAQ INC, but have been helpful to some of our members in the training of their Standardbreds.

DETAILS	TYPE OF TRAINING
EQUINE STARTING, RE-EDUCATION AND INSTRUCTORS	
MK Horsemanship Coominya [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equine starting & re-education • Coaching/lessons
Debbie Summerhayes Ripley [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equine starting & re-education • Coaching/lessons
QLD 4BP – Charles Tonges Nth Brisbane Area [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equine starting & re-education • Coaching/lessons • Clinics
John-Mark Payne Haigslea [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equine starting & re-education • Coaching/lessons
Tor and Mel Van Den Berge [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coaching • Breaking and training • Re-educating problem horses • Carriage horses taken for training
Linda Treur Horse Riding Centre 61 Shaws Pocket Road, Luscombe, QLD, 4207 [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horse starting/backing/education • Coaching/lessons • Clinics
Dove Haven Equestrian Park 1532 Waterford-Tamborine Road, Logan Village [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horse & Rider Instruction • Retraining/re-education
Just Equus 148 Glynton Road, Jimboomba [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horse & Rider Instruction • Retraining/re-education • Horsemanship Clinics
Margaret Drew Tallegalla/Rosewood [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horse riding instruction & lessons • Dressage coach
Darren Palmer Blacksoil [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horse & Rider Instruction • Retraining/re-education

Kulavale Equestrian – Jenny Kunde [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dressage, jumping and riding lessons • Horse Training and education
John Chatterton 45-59 Shiels Rd, Chambers Flat [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horse & Rider Instruction • Retraining/re-education Horsemanship Clinics
Jane Myers [REDACTED]	(lessons/clinics/seminars) and advise on a variety of subjects including handling and riding instruction, feeding, horse behaviour and property/pasture management.
Kathy Saggars – Ride With Your Mind [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rider Instruction • Ride With Your Mind Clinics
VETERINARIANS	
Pac Vets – Rod Stephenson [REDACTED]	Horse Veterinarian – mobile house and acreage service from Bellbowrie to Ipswich & Warrego corridor
Exclusively Equine Vet Services Hattonvale/Laidley Area [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horse Veterinarian – mobile house and acreage service for SE Qld
Anstead Vet Practice Anstead [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance Horse Veterinarians
West Vets Marburg [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horse Veterinarian - mobile house and acreage service for SE Qld
UQ Equine Specialist Hospital Gatton [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horse Veterinarian
Veresdale Equine Veterinary Services Gleneagle [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horse Veterinarian
Redlands Veterinary Clinic [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equine Vet – Lameness and Podiatry
All Horse Veterinary Services Carbrook [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horse Veterinarian
EQUINE DENTISTS (See also Vets)	
Omars Vet Equine Dental [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equine Dental Services
Andrew Williamson North Brisbane and Sunshine Coast Areas Phone: [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horse Dentist
Jill Fenn SE Qld (will travel) [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equine Dentist

Wendy Collier Ipswich [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equine Dentist
Gary Pebles SE Qld [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equine Dentist
FARRIERS	
Tom Sedger Toowoomba area [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farrier – trimming and shoeing
West Hartley SE Qld [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farrier – trimming and shoeing
Tony Scantlebury SE Qld [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farrier – trimming and shoeing
EQUINE CHIROPRACTIC/MASSAGE THERAPIST	
Jeff Kalinowski Sth East Qld Area [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Muscle adjustment/massage of horses
Steve Crawford [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chiropractic adjustment of horse
Geoff Wallen [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Horse Massage
Tork Cowan [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Muscle adjustment/massage of horses
EQUINE TRANSPORT COMPANIES	
Qld Interstate Horse Transport [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reliable Horse Transport - VIC, NSW, QLD & Country areas weekly
Helen Appleton Transeq Horse Transport - North Tamborine [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> QLD & Country areas weekly
Ro's Horse Transport Mt Tyson - Darling Downs [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Goes throughout SE Qld, NSW and Vic. Transport to Nth Qld by arrangement
Darling Downs Horse Transport [REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Goes throughout SE Qld, NSW and Vic. Transport to Nth Qld by arrangement



Standardbred Association
Queensland

FIRST WELLBEING CHECK FORM

HORSE PLACEMENT PROGRAM - 3 MONTHS PHOTO'S & UPDATE FORM

THE PURPOSE OF THIS 3 MONTH CHECK

DUE DATE:

Part of the requirements for people adopting horses through the SAQ Adoption Program is to have the horse's 'wellbeing checked' at 3 months, 6 months and 12 months. **The purpose of your 3 month check is to try and ensure the adoptee of the horse is coping with the responsibilities of owning a horse and that the horse is not being neglected or mistreated.**

Once you have completed the 3 month photos & update form, please return along with the required photos to the address below. Please feel free to make any further comments on the form and please do not hesitate to contact the Horse Welfare Officer – Melissa Bell on 0412 973 102 if you are at all concerned about the welfare of the horse or if you have any questions.

Please send completed form and photos to:

Horse Welfare SAQ Inc PO Box 348 Rosewood QLD 4340

Or email to horsewelfare@saq.com.au (please ensure photos are compressed if emailing)

HORSE DETAILS

Horse's Name:

Date of Foaling: Sex: Gelding Mare Stallion

Height: Colour: Markings:

Freeze Brand/ Brand:

Insert drawing of neck brand:

ADOPTEE DETAILS

Name:

Address:

Suburb: State: Post Code:

Contact phone: H: M:

Email address:

3 MONTH PHOTO'S & UPDATE FORM MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING CLEAR PHOTOGRAPHS:

- 1 x close-up of horse's brand (you may need to clip the brand to make it clear)
- 1 x full shot of horse from off-side
- 1 x full shot of horse from near-side
- 1 x full shot from **front** and **back** of horse

Please note any photos that are too dark, too shadowed or photos where the horse is obscured (i.e. wearing rugs or any tack other than a halter, blocked by an object) will be unacceptable.

QUESTIONS FOR 3 MONTH PHOTOS AND UPDATE

- Is the condition of the horse's coat good (i.e. shiny, healthy clean etc.)? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Has the horse been trimmed/shoed by a farrier in the last 3 months? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Has the horse been wormed in the last 3 months? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Has the horse been vaccinated (Tetanus/Strangles/Hendra) in the last 3 months? (If yes, please include date and type of vaccination and Microchip number if known.) ☐ Yes ☐ No

Details:

- Has the horse been seen by a horse dentist in the last 3 months? (If yes, please include date and name of horse dentist.) ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Has the horse been seen by or treated by a vet in the last 3 months? ☐ Yes ☐ No

(If yes, please give details.)

- Are the facilities the horse is being kept in appropriate for this particular horse (i.e. clean, free access to fresh water, safe, suitable shelter/shade, suitable amount of room?) ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Overall, do you consider the horse to be well maintained and cared for? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Please include a brief comment on how the horse has been progressing over the past 3 months. i.e. started undersaddle, training, outings etc.:

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Any other comments:

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Signed:

Date:

Adoptee

Adoptee- Return Completed form to: **SAQ Inc**
Horse Welfare Officer
PO Box 348
ROSEWOOD QLD 4340



Standardbred Association
Queensland

6-MONTH WELLBEING CHECK FORM

6 MONTH WELLBEING CHECK FORM

Please Note: This check must be carried out by a qualified and registered Veterinarian.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS WELLBEING CHECK

Due Date: _____

The horse you are inspecting has been adopted through the SAQ Inc Horse Adoption Program. The SAQ is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to promoting the Standardbred as a viable saddle horse and to re-home Standardbreds in their post-racing lives. Part of the requirements for people obtaining horses through this adoption program is to have the horse 'wellbeing checked' by a vet at 6 months and again at 12 months. The purpose of your vet check is to try and ensure the prospective owners of the horse are coping with the responsibilities of owning a horse and that the horse is not being neglected or mistreated. Once you have completed the wellbeing check, please place practice stamp or attach business card to form. Please feel free to make any further comments on the form and please do not hesitate to contact the SAQ Horse Welfare Officer: Melissa Bell on 0412 973 102 if you are at all concerned about the welfare of the horse or if you have any questions.

Adoptee to send completed form to: Horse Welfare SAQ Inc PO Box 348 Rosewood QLD 4340

Or email to horsewelfare@saq.com.au

DETAILS OF HORSE TO BE INSPECTED

HORSE DETAILS

Horse's Name:

Date of Foaling: Sex: Gelding Mare Stallion

Height: Colour: Markings:

Freeze Brand/ Brand:

Insert drawing of neck brand:

Please Note: Please ensure the horse you are checking matches the description and brand as described above. If you have any concerns, please call me on the above number.

ADOPTEE DETAILS

Name:

Address:

Suburb: State: Post Code:

Contact phone: H: M:

Email address:

QUESTIONS FOR 6 MONTH WELLBEING CHECK

(to be completed by a registered Veterinarian)

Approx. Weight of Horse:

Approx. Height of Horse:

- Is the horse within a healthy weight range for height and frame of horse? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Is the condition of the coat good (ie shiny, healthy clean etc)? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Do the horse's hooves appear to be well maintained? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Are the horse's eyes bright, alert and clear? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Are the horse's teeth maintained? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Are the horse's worming and vaccinations up to date? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Does the horse have a microchip? If yes please include number. ☐ Yes ☐ No
Microchip#
- Are there any signs of injury which appear to have gone untreated on the horse (i.e. large wounds which are not being treated, untreated conditions such as rain scald, QLD Itch etc)? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Do you consider the facilities the horse is being kept in appropriate for this particular horse (i.e. clean, free access to fresh water, safe, suitable shelter/shade, suitable amount of room)? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Overall, do you consider the horse to be well maintained and cared for? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Any other comments:

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Signed:

Date:

Name of Veterinarian:

Name of Practise:

Adoptee to return Completed Form to: SAQ INC Horse Welfare Office PO BOX 348 ROSEWOOD QLD 4340

Or email to: horsewelfare@saq.com.au

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received:

Entered to Database:

Follow up required? :



Standardbred Association
Queensland

12-MONTH WELLBEING CHECK FORM

12 MONTH WELLBEING CHECK FORM

Please Note: This check must be carried out by a qualified and registered Veterinarian.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS WELLBEING CHECK

Due Date: _____

The horse you are inspecting has been adopted through the SAQ Inc Horse Adoption Program. The SAQ is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to promoting the Standardbred as a viable saddle horse and to re-home Standardbreds in their post-racing lives. Part of the requirements for people obtaining horses through this adoption program is to have the horse 'wellbeing checked' by a vet at 6 months and again at 12 months. The purpose of your vet check is to try and ensure the prospective owners of the horse are coping with the responsibilities of owning a horse and that the horse is not being neglected or mistreated. Once you have completed the wellbeing check, please place practice stamp or attach business card to form. Please feel free to make any further comments on the form and please do not hesitate to contact the SAQ Horse Welfare Officer: Melissa Bell on 0412 973 102 if you are at all concerned about the welfare of the horse or if you have any questions.

Adoptee to send completed form to: Horse Welfare SAQ Inc PO Box 348 Rosewood QLD 4340

Or email to horsewelfare@saq.com.au

DETAILS OF HORSE TO BE INSPECTED

HORSE DETAILS

Horse's Name:

Date of Foaling: Sex: Gelding Mare Stallion

Height: Colour: Markings:

Freeze Brand/ Brand:

Insert drawing of neck brand:

Please Note: Please ensure the horse you are checking matches the description and brand as described above. If you have any concerns, please call me on the above number.

ADOPTEE DETAILS

Name:

Address:

Suburb: State: Post Code:

Contact phone: H: M:

Email address:

QUESTIONS FOR 12 MONTH WELLBEING CHECK

(to be completed by a registered Veterinarian)

Approx. Weight of Horse:

Approx. Height of Horse:

- Is the horse within a healthy weight range for height and frame of horse? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Is the condition of the coat good (ie shiny, healthy clean etc)? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Do the horse's hooves appear to be well maintained? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Are the horse's eyes bright, alert and clear? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Are the horse's teeth maintained? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Are the horse's worming and vaccinations up to date? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Does the horse have a microchip? If yes please include number. ☐ Yes ☐ No
Microchip#
- Are there any signs of injury which appear to have gone untreated on the horse (i.e. large wounds which are not being treated, untreated conditions such as rain scald, QLD Itch etc)? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Do you consider the facilities the horse is being kept in appropriate for this particular horse (i.e. clean, free access to fresh water, safe, suitable shelter/shade, suitable amount of room)? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Overall, do you consider the horse to be well maintained and cared for? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Any other comments:

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Signed:

Date:

Name of Veterinarian:

Name of Practice:



Standardbred Association
Queensland

TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP



Standardbred Association
Queensland

STANDARDBRED ASSOCIATION QUEENSLAND INC.

PLEASURE AND PERFORMANCE HORSE ASSOCIATION QLD

✉ PO Box 348, ROSEWOOD QLD 4340

🌐 www.saq.com.au

HORSE ADOPTION PROGRAM TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION MUST BE COMPLETED:

Name of Horse: _____ Reg. No: _____

Gender: _____ Breed: STANDARDBRED

Colour: _____ Foaling Date: _____

Name of Current Owner(s): STANDARDBRED ASSOCIATION OF QLD INC

Address: PO Box 348

City, State, Postcode: ROSEWOOD QLD 4340

Name of New Owner(s): _____

Address: _____

City, State, Postcode: _____

Date of Transfer (DD/MM/YYYY): _____

I (We) certify that all information on this form is, to the best of my knowledge, true and factual. I (We) do further hereby transfer and assign all rights to this horse to the person(s) the listed above as the New Owner.

Standardbred Association of Qld Inc

Printed Name of Recorded Current Owner

Signature of Recorded Current Owner (C/- President)

Date _____

President

Position Held within Standardbred Association of Qld Inc

Signature of Recorded Current Owner (C/- Horse Placement Officer)

Date _____

Horse Placement Officer

Position Held within Standardbred Association of Qld Inc





Standardbred Association
Queensland

FOSTER CARERS PROGRAM



STANDBRED ASSOCIATION QUEENSLAND INC.

PLEASURE AND PERFORMANCE HORSE ASSOCIATION QLD

✉ PO Box 348, ROSEWOOD QLD 4340

🌐 www.saq.com.au

Registered SAQ Volunteer Horse Foster Carer

Dear Potential SAQ Volunteer Horse Foster Carer,

The SAQ aims to have as many horse foster carers as possible, throughout the state, to be on "standby". Mostly, horses being rehomed through our Horse Adoption Program are able to continue to be cared for by their donating owners until a suitable Adoption Home can be found, however, occasionally the donating owner does not have the capacity to continue with care of the horse, and for the sake of its health and wellbeing we rely on foster carers to help with their accommodation and care.

Please read through the following information about the SAQ Volunteer Horse Foster Carer Network and, if you meet the requirements and are keen to continue, please email to the below address. There will be an Expression of Interest form to complete and then we'll organise a property check (if necessary) by one of our SAQ Horse Welfare Team.

WHY MIGHT A HORSE NEED TO GO INTO FOSTER CARE

The SAQ does not currently have home grounds or facilities to shelter horses until they can find suitable adoption homes. As such, horses who have been seized, who are recovering from malnutrition, illness or a behavioural issue, or who are available for adoption and awaiting a permanent home, may require fostering for a period of time. On occasions, some Donating Owners do not have the ability to continue caring for the horse once it has been donated to the SAQ Horse Adoption Program. Usually this is because they have limited space in their stables, and as a horse is retired from racing the backlog of horses waiting to come into the stable to start work is usually far greater than the horses exiting.

Very occasionally, it has been necessary for the SAQ Horse Welfare Team to intervene when an adoptee ignores their obligatory requirements which are laid down in their Horse Adoption Contract. Anyone adopting a horse through the SAQ Horse Adoption Program is required to complete 3, 6 and 12 month health assessments on their adopted horse, and failure to complete these, or demonstrate that they do not have the ability or resources to continue to provide suitable accommodation and/or the Health and Wellbeing and On-going care of the horse can result in the SAQ seizing the horse. Very rarely, in instances of animal cruelty or neglect, the SAQ Horse Welfare Team may need to seize a horse from its adoptee, for the sake of the animal's health and wellbeing. On these rare occasions the SAQ Horse Welfare Team may have to move quickly to remove the animal from the adoptee and place it with a suitable foster carer.

TYPE OF HORSES WHICH REQUIRE FOSTERING

All horses that come through the SAQ Horse Adoption Program are Standardbreds that have retired from their Harness Racing Careers. Foster horses will vary in sex, age, temperament, health status and reason for requiring fostering. Carers always have a choice as to which horses they foster or not. We will never expect you to take on an animal or responsibility that you don't feel comfortable with.

HOW LONG MIGHT A HORSE BE IN FOSTER FOR?

Depending on the reason they are in foster care, the carer might expect to have the animal for a few weeks to several months. Carers will always be asked how long they can keep an individual horse for, before actual placement.

NOTICE AHEAD OF FOSTERING

Obviously we would like to give carers as much notice as possible that a horse needs to be moved onto their property, however, the nature of the SAQ Horse Welfare Team seizes often means movement of the animal has to occur quickly, with little warning to the carer.

REQUIREMENTS THAT WE ASK OUR CARERS TO MEET

LOCATION – anywhere throughout Queensland; the more locations the better

PADDOCKS - horses need to be mostly grass-fed and may be supplemented with hard feed (at the SAQ's expense) if required; no 100% hard-feeding in stables or yards

FENCES – type of fencing material is not as critical as having safe and secure fences (internal fences can be electric wire or tape, but perimeter fences need to be solid structures of something like wooden posts, wire and/or pipe)

SHELTER - minimum shelter needs to be a carport-type structure or at least shady trees on property

QUARANTINING – carers should have yards or paddocks to enable the separation of the foster horse from other horses (including neighbouring horses) for at least the first week of their stay i.e. no horse-to-horse contact over a fence

SUPERVISION – carers living on-site is preferred, however if living off-site, horses must be checked a minimum of once each day (the requirements of the individual horse will be discussed with the carer ahead of actual placement)

EXPERIENCE WITH HORSES - carers must honestly assess their own horse handling abilities and experience, so that we can match you up to a horse you can safely care for

CARER RESPONSIBILITIES - carers are only expected to provide supervision, minimal handling (depending on the horse) and feeding. No riding, behavioural rehabilitation or intrusive handling (unless carer has been approved as a certified SAQ retrainer). Your safety is paramount.

HEALTH CHECKS AND TREATMENTS

The majority of horses will be moved directly from the owner's property to the foster carer's property and a member of the SAQ Horse Welfare Team visit organised within a few days of arrival to do a health check and to give intestinal wormer (if required) and to assess the need for farrier and teeth treatment. If the foster carer routinely uses a local vet and farrier for their own horses, SAQ may engage that vet or farrier (at our expense) to service the foster horses.

COST TO CARER

SAQ will pay for all necessary health care treatments and farrier visits, hard feed (carers to supply, send receipts and be reimbursed) and any other necessary expenses.

THE NEXT STEP

If you meet the above requirements and are happy to proceed as a volunteer foster carer for SAQ, please email horseplacement@saq.com.au (or call 0412 973b 102 to leave your postal address). I'll then send you a questionnaire, asking about your property and fostering capacity. Upon receipt of the completed questionnaire we will organise someone from our Horse Welfare Team to contact you to go through your application and answer any other questions you may have. We will also organise a visit by one of our SAQ Horse Welfare Team to check the proposed property in person (if necessary).

Thank you for wanting to be a part of the SAQ Volunteer Horse Foster Network. Your willingness to help is very much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Melissa Bell
SAQ Horse Placement Officer
Standardbred Association Queensland Inc
M: 0412 973 102 **W:** www.saq.com.au
E: horseplacement@saq.com.au





Standardbred Association
Queensland

FOSTER CARERS EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – Registered SAQ Volunteer Foster Carer

A. General Information *(all fields must be completed. If non-applicable enter n/a)*

All applicants must be at least 18 years of age.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, P/code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Alternate Phone: _____

Email Address: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Are you over the age of 18? Yes _____ No _____

How did you hear about SAQ? _____

B. Equine Information *(all fields must be completed. If non-applicable enter n/a)*

Have you ever been charged with or convicted of animal abuse? No _____ Yes _____

If yes, please explain _____

Do you currently own any horses? No _____ Yes _____ If Yes How Many _____

C. Facility Information *(all fields must be completed. If non applicable enter n/a)*

Will the foster horse/s be located at a different address than above?

No _____ Yes _____

* If yes please complete the following *

Facility Name: _____

Facility Address: _____

City, State, p/code: _____

Phone Number: _____ Contact Person: _____

Fence Information

List type of fencing that surrounds the pasture: _____

How High is the fence? _____

Is the fence in good repair? Yes _____ No _____ If No, explain: _____

Is there Barbed Wire? Yes _____ No _____

If there is Barbed Wire, how much is covered in Barbed Wire? _____

Pasture Information

Is there pasture or turnout? Yes _____ How large? _____ No _____ Explain _____

Is this pasture safe? Yes _____ No _____ If No Explain _____

Is there any type of debris in or around pasture (metal, trash, etc) Yes _____ No _____

If yes, list type of debris: _____

Shelter Information

Approximate size _____ If man made is it in good repair and safe Yes _____ No _____

If no, explain _____

Is there a Stable Yes _____ No _____ Approx size of stable: _____ How many stables? _____

How often are horse(s) kept in a stable? _____

D. TYPE(S) OF EQUINE PREFERRED

Would you be willing to foster a horse/s with the following conditions? *Please list any concerns you may have below.*

Seized by law enforcement while awaiting a hearing (owner could be awarded the animal back by a judge)	NO		YES	
A horse that SAQ has no background information on? (This can happen with seized or abandoned horses)	NO		YES	
A horse with training issues (if yes, please list your experience below)	NO		YES	
A horse with health issues	NO		YES	
An older horse	NO		YES	
A horse that is too young to ride	NO		YES	
A stallion or newly gelded horse	NO		YES	
A horse that cannot be ridden for any reason	NO		YES	
A mare that is in foal (if yes, please indicate foaling experience)	NO		YES	
A horse with serious hoof problems such as founder (if yes please indicate your experience with treatment)	NO		YES	
Concerns:				

E. EXPERIENCE (all fields must be completed. If non-applicable enter n/a)

Please tell us about horses you currently own or have owned in the past (such as what type(s) of horse, how long you owned them, why you no longer own them, what you do/did with them, etc.)

If more space is needed, please state to see back of page and list further information there

Please describe what experience you have handling, caring for, riding, and training equines.

F. HORSE CARE (all fields must be completed. If non-applicable enter n/a)

How often will you feed the horse?	_____
What type of feed will be available for the horse?	_____
How often will a farrier trim the horse?	_____
How often will the horse be wormed?	_____

If there are special dietary needs for the horse(s), can they be met?	Yes	_____	No	_____
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Are horses fed separately or as a group?	_____	If hard fed do they have their own feed bucket?	Yes	_____	No	_____
--	-------	---	-----	-------	----	-------

What type of water source	_____	Is water source clean	Yes	_____	No	_____
Can it accommodate all horses?	Yes	_____	No	_____	How often is water cleaned	_____

How many horses are kept on the property? _____

If there are stallions on the property are they kept separate from the other horses?	Yes	_____	No	_____
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If no, please explain: _____

G. REFERENCE INFORMATION: (all fields must be completed)

The required references are: Veterinarian, Equine Professional (this may be a trainer, farrier, etc...) and personal (no relation). These must be three (3) separate people. Please let your references know that we will be calling them to ask them a few questions.

Please complete the following information for your references:

*Veterinarian Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, P/code: _____
Phone Number: _____

** This is your vet*

Equine Professional Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, P/code: _____
Phone Number: _____

Personal Reference Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, P/code: _____
Phone Number: _____

H. REQUIRED PHOTOS: (all fields must be completed)

The photographs listed below are required for a home to be evaluated by the SAQ Horse Welfare Team. If you do not submit all of the below photos or if the fostering coordinator has any questions or concerns, we will schedule an in-person pre-foster home visit.

Photographs may be mailed to the address listed or emailed (please reduce pixel size) to:
horsewelfare@saq.com.au

- ▽ Stable (outside and inside)
- ▽ Property entrance
- ▽ Shelter (man-made or natural)
- ▽ Water source
- ▽ Fencing (at least three photos – fencing type and fence posts must be visible)
- ▽ Feed and feed storage
- ▽ Other horses on the property

Terms and Conditions

- I the undersigned understand I am applying to foster horses from Standardbred Association QLD. I also understand that I must complete the application process and my property must be approved before being allowed to foster any horse from SAQ.
- By signing this expression of interest/foster application, I agree that I have read and understand the fostering guidelines of SAQ. I agree that I will submit this completed expression of interest/fostering application and must have approval from an officer of SAQ before I am allowed to foster a horse/s.
- If fostering for SAQ I also understand that I am responsible for daily care of the horse/s I foster. SAQ will be responsible for necessary vet care of the horse/s unless injury to the equine is caused by my neglect or actions. SAQ will also be responsible for supplying paste wormers when necessary and reimbursing necessary hoof trimming. SAQ will reimburse for corrective farrier work, supplements, and/or medications if pre-approved by the Fostering Coordinator.
- I understand that the horse/s in foster care remains available for adoption and may be adopted at any time. I further agree to assist in finding a suitable adoptive home for the horse/s in foster care by providing evaluations as requested, monthly updates, and photos/videos of the horse to be used in promoting it for an adoption home, and responding to potential adopters promptly and honestly. Updates, information, photos and videos submitted become the property of SAQ and may be used and published in marketing and other material.
- I will allow potential adopters of any horse owned by SAQ in my foster care access to said horses for purposes of pre-adoption visits once potential adopter has been approved by SAQ. Visits by interested parties that have not provided all necessary information and been approved by SAQ to adopt a horse through the SAQ Horse Adoption Program will not be allowed.
- I understand there is no minimum or maximum duration for fostering. If at any time I deem I can no longer properly care for the foster horse/s, SAQ will arrange for the horse to be removed to an alternate location.
- I understand that every Foster Horse/s I foster will always remain the sole property of SAQ and I acknowledge that I do not have any right or authority to keep the Foster Horse/s or to place the Foster Horse/s with any other individuals unless SAQ gives me permission to do so.
- All foster placements are subject to approval of SAQ and are at the sole discretion of SAQ and may be terminated at any time by SAQ. I agree to relinquish custody of the foster horse to SAQ immediately upon request and authorise SAQ to enter on to my property for the purpose of reclaiming the foster horse/s.
- During the fostering period the SAQ Horse Welfare Team will, at times agreed to with me, carry out visits to my property in order to monitor the health and welfare of the horse/s and provide support to me.
- By signing this application, I agree not to hold SAQ liable in the event of injury, death, or damage to any human, animal or property as a result of activities or actions of the horse I foster.

Thank you for taking the time to read this application. Please sign below to show you have read and agree to all terms and conditions:

Applicant name (printed)	
Applicant signature	Date
Approving SAQ Official Name (Printed)	SAQ Position
Approving SAQ Official signature	Date

Please return this form at your earliest convenience via email horsewelfare@saq.com.au

or post to SAQ C/- PO Box 358, Rosewood QLD 4340

Please remember that SAQ is a volunteer run not for profit organisation so our response may not be immediate. One of our Horse Welfare team members will contact you to discuss the information in your application and answer any further questions you may have about the process. If both parties still wish to proceed, a meeting will be arranged to view the proposed premises (if necessary) where the horse/s will be housed while in your care.

Thank you on behalf of SAQ for taking the time to fill out this form. If approved, we will place you on our data base and when a horse relevant to your foster caring abilities comes up we will give you a call.

In the instance you are not available we will simply ring the next person and contact you next time.

We reserve the right to refuse any applicant.

Yours sincerely

Melissa Bell
Horse Welfare Officer
Standardbred Association Queensland Inc

M: 0412 973 102 **W:** www.saq.com.au

E: horsewelfare@saq.com.au

Office use only:

Date Received:

Approved:

Contact Date:

APPLICATION FOR TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP

(to be completed by Adoptee)

The transfer of the above-mentioned horse is by: **Permanent Transfer of Ownership**

NB: Transfer of Ownership will be processed after the SAQ have received the 12 Month Wellbeing Check and all contractual conditions have been met as per the SAQ Horse Placement Program Agreement.

CHECKLIST

3 month photos and update submitted: ☐

6 month Wellbeing Check Submitted: ☐

12 month Wellbeing Check Submitted: ☐

Required Photos Emailed/Attached: ☐

SAQ Membership Current: ☐

All Outstanding Fees Paid: ☐

I certify that the above horse was previously registered with the Standardbred Association Queensland Inc Horse Adoption Program. I authorise SAQ to record the transfer of ownership of the horse to the noted adoptee (new owner) upon receipt of all required transfer items.

Signed:

Date:

12 MONTH WELLBEING CHECK FORM MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING CLEAR PHOTOGRAPHS:

- 1 x close-up of horse's brand (you may need to clip the brand to make it clear)
- 1 x full shot of horse from off-side

NB: A good quality off-side photo of the horse is required for insertion into the horse registration card.

Without this photograph we will be unable to register your horse. Please email to horseregistrar@saq.com.au

If you do not have access to digital photographs a standard size printed photo can be mailed with this registration form.

Please note any photos that are too dark, too shadowed or photos where the horse is obscured (i.e. wearing rugs or any tack other than a halter, blocked by an object) will be unacceptable.

DIGITAL PHOTO EMAILED: YES / NO

Adoptee- Return Completed form and required photos to: SAQ Inc Horse Welfare Officer PO Box 348 ROSEWOOD QLD 4340

Or email to horsewelfare@saq.com.au

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received:	Entered to Database:	Date Processed:
SAQ Member Number:	Fees Paid (if applicable): \$	Approved Sign:
Trans of Own Done:	Registration Card Done:	Paperwork Posted:



Standardbred Association
Queensland

REGISTERED TRAINERS PROGRAM

SAQ Horse Adoption Program Registered Retrainers

Are you interested in becoming a SAQ Adoption Program Registered Retrainer?

Please consider the following to assess whether you are eligible to apply:-

- You must commit to the SAQ Adoption Program for a minimum of 12 months.
- You must have the time and financial capabilities to participate.
- You must have the skills and experience to re-educate an off the track Standardbred to the SAQ Adoption Program Minimum Retraining Standards and attend an interview & assessment.
- You must provide a Certificate of Currency confirming Public Liability Insurance coverage of at least \$10 million or sign a waiver that you will not hold the SAQ responsible for any injuries, accidents or damage to personal property.
- Once you commit to a SAQ horse, you are required to see it through to fruition – i.e. re-educated to SAQ Adoption Program Minimum Retraining Standards – within two weeks (unless the horse is deemed unsuitable for retraining and returned to its racing owner OR an application for Special Consideration is made to the SAQ Horse Placement Officer).
- You cannot stipulate requirements such as height, age, colour or sex.
- You must maintain regular contact and consult with the SAQ Horse Placement Officer in the first instance should difficulties of any nature arise.
- You must keep comprehensive horse records and complete a Suitability assessment at the commencement of the 2 week training period.
- You must provide photos or videos of the horse's progress and allow SAQ to use these to assist in advertising to rehome the horse.
- You must be able to recognise and identify soreness and health issues and always use appropriately fitting gear and equipment.
- You must be able to recognise behavioural issues and resolve them in an acceptable and effective manner or if unsure, seek appropriate advice.
- Training methods used must be humane and must not cause unreasonable pain or suffering to the horse.
- Training methods should be adapted to suit the needs of the particular horse.
- Training methods should incorporate an understanding of horse behaviour, learning theory and training techniques proven through evidenced based research.
- Horses should only be given training schedules that are suited to their physical capabilities or level of maturity. Basic education of young horses is desirable; however it should not be strenuous, to reduce risk of injury and growth abnormalities.
- All saddlery, harness and other equipment used with horses should be of sound condition, well-fitting, correctly adjusted, regularly cleaned and must not compromise the welfare of the horse.
- Avoid isolating horses, and consider herd hierarchy implications when moving horses into new groups, especially where space is limited e.g. yards.
- You must be committed to producing a consistent and reliable product, in turn building and maintaining the highest possible standards for the SAQ Adoption Program.
- As a SAQ Adoption Program Registered Retrainer you are at all times an ambassador for the Program, including while out in public and commenting on social media.
- The welfare of SAQ Adoption Program horses is never compromised; the integrity of the SAQ brand is always protected.
- Never criticise in any forum the care afforded to a SAQ Adoption Program horse by its racing owner and/or trainer.

- Never criticise in any forum the SAQ Adoption Program or another SAQ Adoption Program Registered Retrainer.
- The SAQ Adoption Program is not a rescue and SAQ Adoption Program horses must never be referred to as having been “rescued”.
- Potential new adoptees must be offered the opportunity to have a horse assessed by a registered veterinarian (at their cost) prior to adoption.
- SAQ Adoption Program horses are not adopted to any person sight unseen.
- You must be able to assess a rider’s nature and capabilities and strive to match horses and riders appropriately. More than one visit is preferred prior to adoption.
- Anyone adopting a horse must have been pre-approved by the SAQ Horse Placement Officer and will need to complete a SAQ Horse Adoption Contract.
- It is preferable that you remain in contact with the new adoptees and provide follow up support and advice as required.
- Completion paperwork must be returned to the SAQ Horse Placement Officer in PDF format via email or as a hardcopy via mail within seven days of a horse’s adoption.
- All activities, events and sponsorships under the SAQ banner must be approved by the SAQ President in advance.
- SAQ Adoption Program Registered Retrainers cannot speak to the media on behalf of the Program unless authorised by the SAQ Horse Placement Officer.
- SAQ Adoption Program Registered Retrainers are required to attend at least 1 x one day Retrainer Clinic (dates to be advised in advance) annually to learn new skills and share knowledge.
- Retrainer Registration is reviewed annually.
- SAQ reserves the right to revoke a Retrainer Registration immediately if any of the above conditions are breached.

THE NEXT STEP

If you meet the above requirements and are happy to proceed as a Registered Retrainer for SAQ Horse Adoption Program, please email horseplacement@saq.com.au . I’ll then send you an Expression of Interest Form, asking about your property and retraining capacity. Upon receipt of the completed questionnaire we will organise someone from our Horse Placement Team to contact you to go through your application and answer any other questions you may have. We will also organise a visit by one of our SAQ Horse Placement Team to check the proposed property in person (if necessary).

For further information contact:

Melissa Bell
SAQ Horse Placement Officer
Standardbred Association Queensland Inc
M: 0412 973 102 **W:** www.saq.com.au
E: horseplacement@saq.com.au



Re-training the Off the Track Standardbred

Standardbreds will already have had lots of experience being handled, tacked, lunged and driven, and may respond well already to voice commands. This makes the starting process quite a bit easier than with a young green horse who must be trained to accept all of these things before being backed.

There are many things that you must work through and to eliminate in order to successfully re-train the Off the Track Standardbred. Although these training aspects need to be considered in the long term, and not expected as a minimum retraining standard, trainers need to be aware of these elements and always training the horse towards these things:

- Re-build the muscle groupings by relaxing the longitudinal muscles and strengthening the under muscles.
- Relax the lateral muscles.
- Re-correct the neck and top line.
- Attempt to lift the back and to tighten the belly.
- Gain more engagement from the hind legs and get them beneath the horse more.
- Teach the horse that it is ok to trot or canter. This will form a major part of your challenge and much empathy and patience should be used.
- Relax the horse by being empathetic, understanding and to guide with softness.
- Most horses respond best to firm but gentle and consistent techniques and to rewards when the horse responds correctly.

SAQ Adoption Program Minimum Retraining

Risk Assessment

- Ensure you have obtained all relevant paperwork and information on the age and education of a horse from the SAQ Horse Placement Officer prior to beginning any handling or retraining.
- Undertake a risk assessment prior to working with horse and determine control measures.
- Ensure the work environment provides appropriate control and safe working surfaces.
- Animal welfare is essential for the horse's you work with but also important to help ensure your own safety.
- Eliminate all Veterinary issues. Make sure there are no injuries and pain within the horse. Sore horses are tense horses and tense horses will Pace. Veterinary attention should be sought (after consultation with SAQ Horse Placement Officer and approval of Management Committee) if there is any doubt about the fitness of a horse for a particular purpose.
- Observe the behaviour of horse you are going to work with before commencing the activity.
- Monitor horse behaviour constantly and adjust activities accordingly.
- There is considerable variation in temperament between different horses, and responses to stimuli can be unpredictable (e.g. weather, noise, equipment, changes in routine).

Handling, Catching, Secure and Release Horse

- Able to be caught and haltered easily.
- Can be tied up/secured appropriately and safely.

- Groom, lift feet and clean without moving around.
- Able to safely be rugged/unrugged.
- Moves off safely when being released.

Leading

- Walk a respectful distance behind you with lead rope.
- Stop.
- Back up.
- Yield front end 90degrees and go off with energy around you.
- Yield hind end, steps under and stops facing you.
- Stands facing you without moving forward towards you.

Lunging/Hooking On (either in a round pen or with a lunge rope)

- Establish and maintain forward in walk and trot in both directions.
- Change directions to inside, maintaining forward motion.
- Flexes slightly in the correct way of travel.
- Turn in and rest facing centre but not coming in.
- Send off in each direction from standing.
- Keep attention on you as you walk around (towards hindquarters) each side, without moving.
- Disengage hind end away as you walk around, each side, without blocking or leaving.
- Disengage hind end and take forward steps towards you as you step away.
- Follow you at a respectful distance.
- Change directions following you, stepping over behind and staying on outside of turn in both directions (not cutting inside or blocking).

Groundwork

- Desensitising
- Firstly with lead rope over back, then with whip/carrot stick over back. First without noise, then with.
- With whip on the ground, starting perpendicular to horse.
- With flag, plastic bag or hessian bag.
- Sensitising
- Disengage hind end, including untracking front feet.
- Send from a standstill. Front end must yield away before horse moves forward.
- Maintain forward motion on a circle after sending, keeping slack in the rope.
- Disengage to a stop.
- Stop and change directions, yielding front end.
- Maintain a circle, with inside bend and straightness.
- Yield hind quarters while travelling forward on circle.
- Be able to switch between Desensitising and Sensitising with no dullness or reactivity.
- Lateral flexion both sides.
- Calmly travel between you and fence.
- Approach fence, staying parallel, with you above.
- Be desensitised to your movement, touch, weight etc. from the fence.

Saddling

- Desensitised to pressure around girth/belly/stifle.
- Accept saddle pad, then saddle and girth.
- Move freely while carrying saddle with no bucking/pigrooting.
- Complete all groundwork while carrying saddle.

Bridling

- Most Standardbreds are relatively good with bridling and have fairly good mouths.
- Lower head if required, open mouth and accept bit.
- Wear bridle.
- Lateral flexion in bridle.

Mounting (In a Round Yard or Small Enclosed Yard)

- Be calm when you jump up and down beside horse.
- Be calm when you place foot/weight in stirrup.
- Be calm when you stand up and lay weight over saddle.
- Be calm when you lay weight over saddle and swings free leg.
- Be calm when you sit down in saddle.

First Rides (In a Round Yard or Small Enclosed Yard)

- Lateral flexion both sides.
- Disengage both sides.
- Disengage then spiral out into forward motion.
- Bend to a stop from a walk.
- Back Up.
- Do not progress to trot until you have things sorted out at the slower gait.
- Trot on a loose rein, both directions, no steering.
- Bend to a stop from a trot.
- You should train the horse to relax the back when you walk or trot. Slowly begin to train the horse to follow the bit down gently and lower its neck.
- Use appropriate rein techniques to control the horse's direction and forward movement, and to stop the horse.
- Apply appropriate independent leg aids to effect sideways and forward movement of the horse.
- Use a range of natural aids to maintain control and direction.
- Contact: During the first few weeks, the pleasure rein should be used for the walk and trot attempts. Later, as training in all aspects start to come together, a contact may be taken up as the horse heads towards the Dressage type training and flat work. You should get the trot established before collecting the horse up. Contact is not expected in the first weeks of re-training.
- Reward and relief should form a major part of your training regime. You must get the horse to believe that it is ok to trot instead of pace. Reward for small tries by voice, stroking and long rein walk. Gradually build up.

First Ride Outside (Optional)

- Lateral flexion both sides – mentally present and can easily go from one side to other.
- Disengage both sides.
- Disengage then spiral out into forward motion, both sides.





Standardbred Association
Queensland

REGISTERED TRAINERS EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – REGISTERED SAQ RE-TRAINER

Name:

Address.....

Phone:

Email:

Do you have an ABN? **YES / NO**

Do you have Public Liability Insurance? **YES / NO**

Do you have your own property? **YES / NO** Do you have separate yards/paddocks? **YES / NO**

Do you own a float and towing vehicle? **YES / NO**

Are you a member of any equine clubs/organisations **YES / NO** Please list if applicable:

.....
.....

Would you be willing to attend training and education days **YES / NO**

How many Standardbreds have you re-educated for riding in the past 12 months?.....

How many Standardbreds could you potentially re-educate in the next 12 months?.....

Please outline your costs and what would be included in those costs for a 2 week training period:

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Please outline what training the horse would receive in that 2 week period and at what level you would expect the horse to be at the end of the 2 weeks of training sessions:

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Please provide a brief outline of your relevant equine experience:

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Please forward your completed Expression of Interest to:

Melissa Bell (SAQ Horse Placement Officer)

Phone: 0412 973 102

Mail: PO Box 348, Rosewood QLD 4340





Standardbred Association
Queensland

REGISTERED TRAINERS RETRAINING OBSERVATIONS



Standardbred Association
Queensland

STANDARD BRED ASSOCIATION QUEENSLAND INC. PLEASURE AND PERFORMANCE HORSE ASSOCIATION QLD

✉ PO Box 348, ROSEWOOD QLD 4340

🌐 www.saq.com.au

RETRAINING INFORMATION & DETAILS

– horse for rehoming through SAQ Adoption Program

Please see below all know information & details of the horse needing to be retrained prior to rehoming:

Horse Race Name: SAQ REG #

Horse Stable Name:

Age: Sex: Brand

Horse Colour (including white markings):

Height: Date Retired from Racing:

Date Available for rehoming:

Location:

Last known owner/trainer:

Phone:

Why was this horse retired?

.....

Does this horse have any known health issues/injuries (i.e. bleeder, tendon, roarer etc)? YES/NO

.....

Does this horse have any significant conformation issues (i.e. club foot, roach back etc)? YES/NO

.....

Does this horse have any known vices (i.e. windsucking/kicking etc)? YES/NO

.....

Describe the horse's ground manners (leading, standing still etc):

.....

Does the horse tie up safely?: YES / NO

Does the horse have any known issues loading/floating?: YES/NO

.....

Can the horse be paddocked safely with other horses? YES / NO

Has the horse been ridden previously? YES / NO

.....

Has the horse been exposed to dogs/farm animals/machinery/vehicles/small children? YES/NO

.....

Does the horse behave for the farrier?: YES / NO

Is the horse currently shod?: YES / NO

Last known worming:

Last known dental check up:

Last known vaccination (if any):

Any other relevant information:

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Date to Commence Retraining:

Approved Retrainer:

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Retrainer contacted:

Date Retraining commences:

Form emailed to Retrainer:

Agreed Retrainer Costs \$

Entered to Database:

Approved: