

STANDARDBREDS ...

... They're not just for racing ...



The Standardbred was created to be a harness horse – a willing worker; calm, intelligent and good natured, tough and strong. Many people have the idea that because it is a harness horse the breed is not suitable for riding. As a result, most are destroyed and become pet food when their racing career is over or when they fail to make the grade, even though they are still young and healthy. Now horse lovers are coming to recognise that the very qualities that make a good harness racer also make a good riding horse for both pleasure and competition.

The SPPHA (Standardbred Pleasure and Performance Horse Association) is a non-profit, volunteer-run association that promotes the Standardbred as a multi-talented breed, which can succeed in many equestrian disciplines. These horses are successful across a variety of activities, ranging from showing, endurance, dressage, show-jumping or eventing, to pony club, trail riding and pleasure harness, or just as a much loved family pet.

The SPPHA promotes the Standardbred horse in a number of ways. One of the most important of these is through direct transfer of horses from the racing industry into equestrian homes through our Adoption Program. Owners and trainers donate horses to the SPPHA, and these horses are then matched with new adopting owners. People seeking to adopt a Standardbred complete the adoption application process, which includes screening to ensure a suitable home is being offered. Most applicants are matched with a horse to suit their needs without much delay.

The SPPHA supports both led and ridden classes at local shows for Standardbreds, and coordinates the High Point Awards for Showing at both State and National levels. The Association offers High Points Competitions for Dressage and Endurance and a Sponsorship program for members competing in Open Competition. We also offer members regular newsletters, and source information on horse care and training. There is also a range of SPPHA merchandise available for purchase. As personnel and support allows, we participate in appropriate promotional activities, such as arranging stands at trade displays, and providing information for magazine and newspaper articles to further advance acceptance of the breed. All of our funds come from our own fund-raising efforts – we usually have at least one major fund-raising event for members and non-members (e.g. Trivia Night) each year.

Since the formation of the SPPHA, there has been significant positive change in opinion towards the Standardbred. Many people are experiencing first-hand the amazing temperament and trainability of this wonderful breed. The future is looking much brighter for the Standardbred ... **they're not just for racing!**

For more information:

Website: www.standardbred.org.au

Phone (messagebank): 049.9713103

Email: horseplacement@standardbred.org.au

Address: PO Box 171

KURRAJONG NSW 2758



The Standardbred Pleasure & Performance Horse Association

of New South Wales Inc

A.B.N. 11 407 812 669

- **Persons wishing to adopt a Standardbred** must read the enclosed information and **MUST** return **BOTH** the **completed Membership Application Form AND Horse Adoption Application with the TOTAL FEES required**. Otherwise, your application will be rejected or processing delayed.
- SPPHA NSW also accepts applications for Membership Only. In this case, only the Membership Application Form and Membership Fee are required.
- As we are a volunteer-run organisation, please allow at least 4 weeks for the processing of all applications.
- All fees paid are non-refundable.

HORSE ADOPTION INFORMATION

You must be a FULL member of SPPHA NSW to adopt a horse

The SPPHA runs the Adoption Program for the purpose of putting Standardbred horses into caring, loving, long-term homes. **MOST OF THE HORSES PLACED THROUGH THE PROGRAM ARE NOT YET BROKEN TO SADDLE, BUT ARE BROKEN TO HARNESS, AND MOST ARE VERY EASY TO RETRAIN BY ANYONE WITH SOME EXPERIENCE, COMMONSENSE AND PATIENCE.** The temperament of the breed in general makes the Standardbred suitable for almost any use and the majority are easily handled by a sensible beginner.

The horses placed through the program are retired from or unsuitable for harness racing for many reasons: some are just not fast enough, others may have completed a successful racing career, and some may have had minor injuries. Your intended use will influence the horse that is most suitable for your needs. Many minor injuries which prevent a horse from further racing do not re-occur in the less stressful situations of pleasure and performance riding/harness.

All horses adopted through the SPPHA are owned by the SPPHA, and placed with the adopting owner under a free lease agreement (contract) for the first 12 months. During this time the horse must be inspected by a veterinarian at 6 and 12 months to ascertain its well-being (**VET CHECKS ARE AT THE COST OF THE ADOPTER**). At the completion of the 12 month lease, and provided both SPPHA NSW and the adopter are happy, full ownership of the horse will be transferred to you. If for any reason during the 12 month lease the horse is found to be unsuitable you will need to notify the SPPHA and we will find the horse a more suitable home.

All horses entering the adoption program have been donated by their owners or trainers, and as such horses are not permitted to be raced again. Horses are also not permitted to be used for commercial purposes, such as riding schools, etc.

After returning this form, please contact the SPPHA every 4-6 weeks to confirm you still require a horse. It can take anything from a few days to several months 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 complete your details and answer the questions on the attached form as honestly as possible as this information will enable us to select the horse that most suits your needs. Please note that completing this application does not necessarily guarantee that you will be able to adopt a horse from the SPPHA – all adopting owners are assessed for suitability, and the final decision is at the discretion of the SPPHA.

As we are a non-profit, volunteer run association, there is a **\$150 non-refundable fee** for applying to adopt a horse to cover administrative costs and the cost of transfer/registration at the end of the lease period.



DURING THE 12 MONTH LEASE
PERIOD THE FOLLOWING
CONDITIONS APPLY:

THE HORSE REMAINS THE PROPERTY OF SPPHA NSW. THE HORSE CANNOT BE SOLD, GIVEN AWAY OR IN ANY WAY TRANSFERRED TO ANOTHER PERSON.

YOU ARE REQUIRED TO OBTAIN TWO VET CHECKS AT YOUR OWN EXPENSE - THE FIRST AT 6 MONTHS, THE SECOND AT 12 MONTHS. WE WILL SEND YOU A REMINDER WHEN THESE ARE DUE.

IF FOR ANY REASON THE HORSE IS UNSUITABLE, OR YOU CAN NO LONGER CARE FOR THE HORSE PROPERLY, YOU MUST CONTACT SPPHA NSW IMMEDIATELY. WE WILL ENDEAVOUR TO REHOUSE THE HORSE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WITHIN APPROXIMATELY 6 WEEKS. HOWEVER, REHOUSING CAN DEPEND ON LOCATION, AVAILABILITY OF NEW ADOPTING OWNERS, ETC. IF YOU ARE GOING TO BE UNABLE TO LOOK AFTER THE HORSE, YOU WILL NEED TO MEET TRANSPORT COSTS TO RETURN THE HORSE TO TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION AS ADVISED BY SPPHA NSW. OTHERWISE, YOU WILL CONTINUE TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CARE OF THE HORSE UNTIL A NEW HOME IS FOUND.



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INFORMATION FOR PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE OWNERS

- Most of the horses available for adoption come to us straight from racing.
- Most are NOT broken to saddle - it is up to you to have this done (SPPHA can provide assistance at your cost as part of the placement process).
- Transport costs are met by you - horses may come from anywhere in NSW. Ideally we try and place you with a horse close to you, however this is not always possible.
- While we try and take personal preferences into account, the SPPHA will have the final say as to which horse you are offered.
- All fees paid are non-refundable.

ONGOING CARE OF THE HORSE

CARE IS NOT OPTIONAL

FEEDING (Body Condition Score of 5-7 on the Henneke Scale)

SAFE AND SUPERVISED AGISTMENT

REGULAR WORMING

REGULAR SHOEING/TRIMMING OF FEET BY A FARRIER

ANNUAL VACCINATIONS

DENTISTRY BY A QUALIFIED HORSE DENTIST

RUGGING IF NECESSARY

SUMMARY OF LEASE CONDITIONS

- TWO VET CHECKS (AT 6 MONTHS AND 12 MONTHS) MUST BE PERFORMED WHEN YOU RECEIVE YOUR NOTICE TO DO SO. YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE COSTS OF PERFORMING BOTH CHECKS.
- THE SPPHA OF NSW ARE THE LEGAL OWNERS OF THE HORSE THROUGHOUT YOUR LEASE PERIOD, THEREFORE:
 - IF FOR ANY REASON YOU NO LONGER WISH TO CONTINUE WITH THE LEASE OF YOUR HORSE, HE/SHE MUST BE RETURNED TO US.
 - THE HORSE CANNOT BE GIVEN AWAY OR SOLD DURING THIS LEASE PERIOD.
- AT THE COMPLETION OF THE 12 MONTH LEASE PERIOD, IF ALL CONDITIONS HAVE BEEN MET, THE HORSE WILL BE TRANSFERRED AND REGISTERED IN YOUR NAME. THE COST OF THIS IS INCLUDED IN THE **\$150 NON-REFUNDABLE ADMINISTRATION FEE** PAID WHEN YOU APPLY TO ADOPT A STANDARDBRED.



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THE COST OF KEEPING A HORSE

If you are not an experienced horse person, you need to look into the costs of keeping a horse and the many things you need to do in order to care for a horse properly. The horse may be free, but keeping it can be very expensive. This is just the money aspect: it's even more important that you commit yourself to spending enough time with this living creature to build a happy and lasting relationship. A horse is not a machine that can be parked in the shed and forgotten about when it becomes inconvenient. It depends on you for companionship and leadership and love: that's a big obligation that you can't skip just because it's raining or you have a headache.

There are many handbooks on the care and feeding of horses, but think about these points before you take it on, 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 twice a day, 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. Horses are expected to be at a Body Condition Score of 5-7 on the Henneke Scale.
- **Worming:** Required approximately every 6 to 8 weeks. Commercial wormers ("drenches") are readily available from saddleries and feed stores. There are different types of active ingredients in drenches, 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.
- **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 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.
- **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 cosy and 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.
- **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



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CONSIDERATIONS FOR AGISTMENT

Choosing an agistment property from price alone, without considering the state and management of the land and relative feed expense, is false economy. The following outlines the facilities and features of desirable horse agistment.

There are three general options for horsekeeping, each of which has a different level of work input. The agistment manager may undertake these at a cost, or you can do them yourself. Whichever system you choose, make sure that your horse will be **checked daily at a minimum**.

Low Input

Paddocking is often the cheapest and easiest system as the horses do not usually require frequent manure removal. Rugging is optional if good natural or artificial shelter is available. Paddocks need to be rotated.

Medium Input

Day paddocking (conditions permitting) and night yard/stabling systems require daily manure removal from the stable/yard and medium feeding and exercising.

High Input

Yard and/or stable systems are generally the most expensive and time consuming as all manure needs to be removed, the horse is entirely hand fed, requires regular exercising and generally requires day and night rugging.

The price of agistment increases with the number of facilities and services required.

All facilities

- Safe, secure fencing and gates
- Daily supervision
- Shelter and shade
- Continuous clean water
- Parking
- Tie-up and saddling areas
- Safe exercise areas
- Knowledgeable property owner - consider costs, location and your time (labour involved)

Yards

- Between 45m² and 100m²
- All-weather surface
- Shelter against the elements

Stables

- At least 3.7m x 3.7m and 4m high
- Guttering
- Adequate ventilation
- Kick-proof panelling

Both

- Daily manure removal from stables and yards
- No stormwater intrusion into stables or yards
- Regular feeding routine of at least 2 feeds a day

Paddocks

- Rotational grazing
- No poisonous weeds and few, if any, other weeds
- Minimum 70% pasture groundcover
- Manure management program
- Safe access
- Creeks, boggy and dangerous areas fenced off

Additional services and facilities you may need

- Rugging
- Training facilities and/or instruction
- Safe trails
- Local riding/pony clubs
- Secure feed and tack storage
- Float Parking
- Farrier on call
- Vet on call
- Consultation over agistment arrangements



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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 a lot of 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. Gridwork 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!

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!

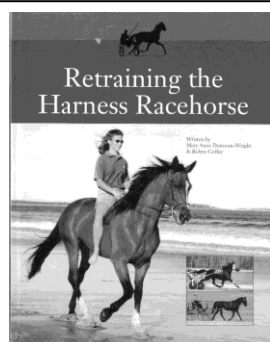


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SPPHA NSW offers the following books for sale. These are recommended as excellent sources of information on general horse ownership, and specifically for Standardbred retraining.



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

THE book on retraining specifically geared to the Standardbred and their strength 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

SPECIAL OFFER!

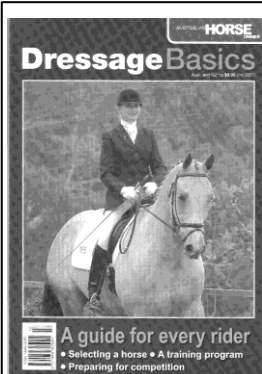
FREE Retraining Book with every adoption*

Available while stocks last

*on receipt of signed lease by SPPHA NSW. One book per member.

Softcover (120pp). ~~PRICE \$20.00~~ incl GST.

Order forms included in New Member Packs or download order form from www.standardbred.org.au.



Dressage Basics – A guide for every rider.

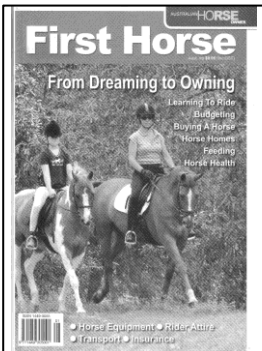
“The general principles of dressage are aimed at achieving the harmonious development of the physique and ability of the horse. The ultimate goal is to achieve perfect understanding between horse and rider. Even if dressage is not your main interest, you and your horse will benefit from pursuing the core aims and principles of dressage training.”

Topics covered include:

- The dressage horse
- Feeding and conditioning
- Training program and training logic
- Outfitting, grooming and presentation of horse and rider
- Your first competition.

Magazine format (98pp). **PRICE \$11.95** incl GST (postage extra).

Order forms included in New Member Packs or download order form from www.standardbred.org.au.



First Horse – From Dreaming to Owning.

“The dream of horse ownership is one that is shared by many thousands of Australians young and old. It’s a dream that, once fulfilled, can lead to countless hours of enjoyment and companionship with an animal that will reward your care and attention with his trust and loyalty.”

This excellent introduction to the responsibilities of horse ownership covers:

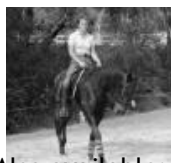
- Learning to ride
- Budgeting for your horse
- Outfitting, feeding and health care
- Travelling with your horse
- Insurance

Magazine format (98pp). **PRICE \$11.95** incl GST (postage extra).

Order forms included in New Member Packs or download order form from www.standardbred.org.au.

The following information is a sample of material available from **Horseproblems Australia** www.horseproblems.com.au. (Please note: SPPHA NSW does not sell any of these items). Horse Problems Australia also have short advisory videos available via podcast or posted on YouTube, including two on “Mounting the STB for The First Time”.

Comments below are from 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 A 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 circles properly!!!!!! 2 DVD set \$59.95 AU plus postage.



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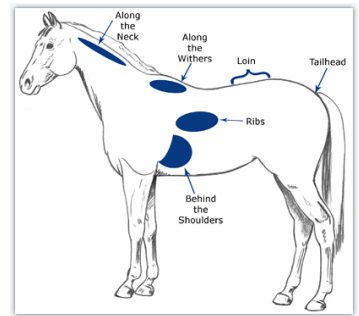
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BODY CONDITION SCORING - THE HENNEKE SYSTEM (9-point system)

The health and welfare of the horses SPPHA NSW places for adoption is of utmost importance. The easiest way to evaluate this is by evaluating the body condition of the horse. A body condition score is required as part of the 6 month and 12 month vet checks during the adoption period.

The system developed by Dr Henneke assigns a number to particular areas where fat is deposited on the horse's body. The system works by assessing fat both by sight and by touch in each of six areas. Horses deposit fat in these areas in a set order. These areas are the loin (lumbar spinous process), ribs, tailhead, withers, neck and behind the shoulders (Figure 1). A number between 1 and 9 is assigned based on the cumulative fat in all six areas (Table 1).



Loin: An extremely thin horse will have a prominent ridge down the back where the spine of the horse sticks up. No fat can be felt along the back of the horse. This is one of the first areas to fill in as a horse gains weight. As the horse gets fatter, an obvious crease or depression ("gutter") forms down the back because of fat accumulation along the spine (spinous processes).

Ribs: The next place to look is the ribs. Look at the rib area, then run your fingers across the rib cage. A very thin horse will have the ribs sticking out, easily seen and felt, with no fat padding. As the horse begins to gain weight, a little padding can be felt around the ribs; by level 5 the ribs will no longer be visible, but can be easily felt by passing a hand down the rib cage. Once the horse becomes obese, feeling the ribs will be impossible.

Tailhead: In a very thin horse (a score of 1 to 3) the tailhead is very easy to see. Once the horse starts to gain weight, the fat fills in around the tailhead. As the horse becomes obese, the fat will feel soft and begin to bulge.

Withers: Conformation of the withers may affect your assessment of body condition and there may be some variation between and within breeds. However, if the horse is very thin, the underlying structure of the withers will be easily visible. At a level 5, the withers will appear rounded. At levels 6 through 8, varying degrees of fat deposits can be felt along the withers. In obese horses, the withers will be bulging with fat.

Neck: The neck allows for refining the assessment of body condition. In an extremely thin horse, you will be able to see the bone structure of the neck. As the horse gains condition, fat will be deposited down the top of the neck.

Shoulder: The shoulder will also help you refine the condition score. As a horse gains weight, fat is deposited around the shoulder to help it blend smoothly with the body. At increasing condition scores, fat is deposited behind the shoulder, especially in the region behind the elbow.



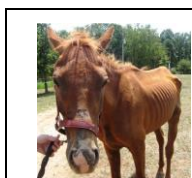
A score of 1-9 is given to each point of reference; increments of ¼ can be used as needed (e.g. 5 ¼, 6 ½, 4 ¾). The score for each area is added together and then divided by 6 to give the Overall Body Condition Score for that horse. A score of 1 has no apparent fat cover (emaciated), 5-7 is an average pleasure animal and 8-9 is an obese horse.

It is important that you **ONLY** look at the reference points for an accurate score. As shown in Figure 2, large bellies are deceiving – this mare is heavily in foal but has a body condition score of 2.5.

In terms of the SPPHA NSW Vet Checks:

- A score of 1-3 is UNACCEPTABLE. Any horse in this condition will be immediately repossessed by SPPHA NSW.
- A score of 4 – management of the horse will be discussed with SPPHA NSW, such as:
 - the correct amount and type of feed;
 - worming;
 - treatment for sand ingestion; and/or
 - veterinary intervention.
 - Regular updates with photos will be required and the lease agreement may be extended indefinitely after the 12 month check. **failure to follow requirements in regards to correct management with significant improvement shown within 6-12 weeks will result in the horse being repossessed by SPPHA NSW.**
- A score of 5-6 is ideal and 7 is acceptable; **all horses should achieve and maintain a minimum score of 5 within 3 months of adoption (if not at this score already) and are expected to be a minimum of 5 by the time of the 6 month vet check.**
- A score of 8-9 is too fat and a weight loss plan needs to be implemented.

Note that this body condition scoring system does NOT tell you how fit your horse is for performance. Although horses in training will have less fat due to their exercise intensity, the fat level has nothing to do with muscle tone, cardiovascular fitness or any other measure of athletic conditioning.



BODY CONDITION SCORE 1 – EMACIATED

This horse is emaciated, with prominent vertebrae (spine), tailhead, pelvic bones and ribs.

The bone structure under the withers, shoulders and neck can be seen and no fat cover can be felt anywhere

A body condition score of 1 is considered to be in critical condition.

UNACCEPTABLE

SPPHA USE ONLY:
 Member No.: _____ Member Fee: _____
 Adoption Fee: _____ Date Processed: _____



The Standardbred Pleasure & Performance Horse Association

of New South Wales Incorporated

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

A.B.N. 11 407 812 669
 TAX INVOICE

Surname: _____ Christian Name(s): _____

D.O.B.: _____ Postal Address: _____

Suburb/Town: _____ State: _____ P'code: _____

Phone (Home): _____ (Work): _____ (Mob): _____

email: _____

Next of Kin (alternative contact): _____ Relationship: _____

Phone (Home): _____ (Work): _____ (Mob): _____

Additional Members (Family Memberships only). Please note: Family membership will ensure that family members are covered by Public Liability insurance for SPPHA NSW activities and are eligible for recognition in SPPHA NSW competitions.

Name: _____ D.O.B.: _____

Name: _____ D.O.B.: _____

Name: _____ D.O.B.: _____

Name: _____ D.O.B.: _____

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP

- 1 YR NEW FULL MEMBERSHIP + New member admin fee
- 1 YR NEW FAMILY MEMBERSHIP + New member admin fee
- NEW JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP Yearly Junior ongoing
- NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP –available to interstate members only. Yearly Associate ongoing
- Single yearly ongoing
- Family yearly ongoing

Acceptance of membership is at the discretion of SPPHA NSW. All fees are non-refundable.

I declare that all the information supplied above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I also agree to be bound by and obey the Constitution of the Standardbred Pleasure and Performance Horse Association of NSW Inc.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

***ALL JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS MUST BE SIGNED BY A PARENT OR GUARDIAN.**

Name of Parent/Guardian: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

SEE LAST PAGE FOR PAYMENT OPTIONS

ALL MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS ARE DUE 1ST JULY EACH YEAR. Membership is not pro-rated

FEE SCHEDULE					
New Memberships			Yearly		
1 Yr Full Membership	\$54.00	1 Yr Family Membership	\$76.00	Full Renewal	\$44.00
Junior Membership	\$37.50	Associate Membership	\$26.50	Family Renewal	\$66.00
				Junior Renewal	\$27.50
				Associate Renewal	\$16.50

All charges include GST. SPPHA NSW accepts payment by cheque, money order or direct debit (see last page).

A \$10.00 admin fee is charged to all new memberships
 ALL FEES PAID ARE NON-REFUNDABLE



The Standardbred Pleasure & Performance Horse Association

of New South Wales Inc

A.B.N. 11 407 812 669

HORSE ADOPTION APPLICATION FORM

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

- Most of the horses available for adoption come to us straight from racing.
- Most are NOT broken to saddle – it is up to you to have this done.
- Transport costs are met by you – horses may come from anywhere in NSW. Ideally we try and place you with a horse close to you; however this is not always possible.
- While we try and take personal preferences into account, the SPPHA will have the final say as to which horse you are offered.
- It can take anywhere from a few days to several months to locate “the perfect horse”, but when a horse needs a home it may be a matter of hours that makes the difference between life and death.
- All fees paid are non-refundable.

SPECIAL OFFER!
FREE Retraining Book
with every adoption*

Available while stocks
last

*on receipt of signed lease by
SPPHA NSW. One book per member.

Please refer to the information contained in this package for some of the considerations to take into account when contemplating horse ownership. CARE IS NOT OPTIONAL.

Please complete the following information as completely as possible to enable us to select the horse that most suits your needs. Answering “No” to any question will not necessarily disqualify you from the adoption program. However, we hope the questions below will help you assess your readiness to take on the care of a horse.

Do you own or have you owned a Horse/s before? NO* YES

*If you have never owned a horse before, do you know people with experience to provide assistance if required?

YES NO

The horse will be ridden/handled mostly by a: LADY GENT CHILD (age)_____

If horse is for a child, are their parents experienced? YES NO N/A

Level of experience: BEGINNER MODERATE ADVANCED

Regardless of level of experience, please provide details of ANY horse handling or horse riding experience you have had (e.g. lessons, trail rides, etc.):

Use for which you would like a Horse:

Trail Riding Pleasure Harness

Showing Jumping Eventing Dressage

Endurance Pony Club Other:_____

WHERE WILL THE HORSE BE KEPT?

AGISTMENT OWN PROPERTY

ADDRESS WHERE HORSE WILL BE KEPT:_____



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PROVIDE A DESCRIPTION OF THE AGISTMENT/OWN PROPERTY (e.g. Area of property, type of fencing, paddock size, facilities, tank or town water, dams, creeks, springs, pasture quality etc.):

WILL THE HORSE BE KEPT:

- Paddock (alone): Will the horse be within sight of other horses? Yes No
- Paddock (with others): Farm Other: _____
- Stabled: If constantly stabled, please describe your exercise/turnout plan:

- WILL THE HORSE BE: Rugged Unrugged
- Regularly Shod Trimmed Only

WILL THE HORSE BE UNDER SUPERVISION:

- At All Times Daily Weekly Monthly

VETERINARYCARE (as you are required to pay for two vet checks as part of the adoption program, we suggest that you investigate this cost before committing to taking a horse):

Who is your vet/vet clinic? _____

How far for your vet to travel to see your horse? _____

What is the approximate cost for vet travel and consultation to see your horse? _____

YOUR PREFERENCE FOR A HORSE (check all that apply):

- Sex: NONE MARE GELDING STALLION
- Age: NONE 1-5YRS 5-10YRS 10YRS+
- Size: NONE Under 15hh 15-16hh* 16hh+ *average height
- Colour: NONE BAY BROWN BLACK OTHER_____

(Please note that most Standardbreds are Bay or Brown, but do come in Black, Chestnut and Grey occasionally. A choice of colours is not always available.)



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YOUR LOCATION:

Nearest major town: _____

Region (please circle):

Sydney	Wollongong/Illawarra	Southern Highlands	ACT
Riverina	Central Coast	Hunter Valley	Mid-North Coast
Far North Coast	New England	North West	Central Tablelands
Central West	Far West	South Coast	Far South Coast

I WOULD BE PREPARED TO TAKE A HORSE FROM THE FOLLOWING AREAS OF NEW SOUTH WALES (please circle all that apply):

ANYWHERE (including being prepared to take horse sight unseen) **OR ...**

Sydney	Wollongong/Illawarra	Southern Highlands	ACT
Riverina	Central Coast	Hunter Valley	Mid-North Coast
Far North Coast	New England	North West	Central Tablelands
Central West	Far West	South Coast	Far South Coast

Please note: As you are required to pay transport costs, SPPHA NSW makes every effort to place a horse that is located as close to you as possible. However, depending on where you are located this can take some time. SPPHA NSW has no control over when and where horses become available.

Any other details that may assist selection: _____

MOST HORSES AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION ARE BROKEN TO HARNESS ONLY.

SPPHA NSW CAN ASSIST WITH THE ORGANISATION OF BREAKING-IN OF HORSES TO SADDLE BY A HORSE BREAKER. THIS WILL ONLY OCCUR BY PRIOR ARRANGEMENT WITH SPPHA NSW AS PART OF THE PLACEMENT PROCESS. THE COST FOR THIS IS MET BY THE ADOPTER/LESSEE. PRICE ON APPLICATION TO SPPHA NSW.

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ADOPTER/LESSEE TO MEET ALL COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH TRANSPORTATION, TRAINING AND CARE OF THE HORSE WHILST IN THE CARE OF THE BREAKER.

SPECIAL OFFER!

FREE Retraining Book with every adoption*

Available while stocks last

*on receipt of signed lease by SPPHA NSW. One book per member.

SIGNED: _____

DATE: _____

Acceptance of applications for the SPPHA NSW Adoption Program is at the discretion of SPPHA NSW. **All fees are non-refundable.**



PLEASE COMPLETE THE CHECKLIST ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE BEFORE SENDING IN YOUR APPLICATION – THIS WILL ENSURE THAT YOU HAVE INCLUDED ALL THE NECESSARY INFORMATION TO ALLOW US TO PROCESS YOUR APPLICATION IMMEDIATELY.



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CHECKLIST

BEFORE RETURNING YOUR APPLICATION, PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU HAVE COMPLETED THE FOLLOWING:

- Your Details section of this form completed.
- Membership Application form completed and attached.
- Horse Adoption Application forms completed (including signature and date) and attached.
- Membership Fees* (Full, Family or Junior) included (if not an existing member) as cheque/money order or paid by direct debit. *N/A existing member*
- \$150.00 Administration/Adoption Application Fee* included as cheque/money order or paid by direct debit. All fees are non-refundable.
- Completed payment options below. *All fees can be submitted as a single payment. That is: \$44 membership + \$150 administration fee = \$194 total

PAYMENT OPTIONS

- Cheque/Money Order:
 1. Make cheque/money order payable to "SPPHA".
 2. Post payment and all completed forms to: SPPHA NSW, PO Box 171, Kurrajong NSW 2754.
- Direct Debit:
 1. Make your payment to the SPPHA NSW bank account: BSB: 633 000 (Bendigo Bank); Account: 120595921; Account Name: SPPHA; Reference: <<*your surname*>>Application
 2. Complete the following details:

Name: _____

Total Amount: \$ _____

Date Payment Made: _____

Receipt/Transaction No: _____

3. Email a copy of all completed forms to payments@standardbred.org.au or post to SPPHA NSW, PO Box 171, Kurrajong NSW 2754. *Include notification in the email if you are also posting these forms.*

PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH THROUGH THE MAIL!

YOUR DETAILS

Name: _____

Full Address: _____

Email: _____ Mobile: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

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