

**Riding To The Top
Therapeutic Riding Center
Policies and Procedures**

Policy Regarding Retirement/Re-Homing of RTT Program Horses

Riding To The Top is committed to the health and well-being of our horses. In the event that a horse is no longer able to safely work in the program the decision will be made to retire the horse from EAS service.

If retirement at RTT is an option, this will be considered along with the possibility of the horse being able to participate in ground lessons, horse buddy programs, etc. where riding is not required. When retirement on RTT's premises is not possible, or the horse is no longer suitable for EAS, all efforts will be made to place the horse in an appropriate new home, including requirement of references, discussion regarding the horse's history, etc.

In situations where retirement is due to health reasons or an acute situation arises (e.g. colic), consultation with our equine veterinarian will occur to discuss humane management of the horse considering pain and suffering, overall health and condition, potential for recovery, etc. In the event that pain and suffering will likely continue and/or treatment options are not prudent for the horse and/or organization, RTT will consider euthanasia in consultation with our veterinarian and the owner in the event that the horse is free leased to RTT.

The Equine Manager is responsible for determining when a horse needs to be retired and will take a primary role in determining placement for retirees. When an acute situation arises or euthanasia is considered, this decision will be made in conjunction with the Executive Director with appropriate communications to all RTT Stakeholders--our clients, volunteers, donors and staff regarding this decision.

Reviewed: 2/00, 3/05, 11/05, 2/11
Revised: 8/16, 3/23

Signature: *Sarah Bronson*

Date: 3/15/23



Riding To The Top Re-Homing/Adoption Agreement

This agreement is made between _____ (Adopter) and Riding To The Top (owner), for the horse described below:

Name: _____ Breed: _____

Age: _____ Sex: _____

Owner agrees to gift and Adopter agrees to take ownership of the above described horse based on the following terms:

- 1. Warranties:** Owner guarantees that they are the owner of the above described horse and that they have the right to gift said horse and they will defend the horse against any and all lawful claims and demands made by all persons.
- 2. Transfer of Ownership:** Owner agrees to transfer all ownership and registration papers (if registered) to Adopter once agreement is signed.
- 3. Laws:** The laws of the State of Maine shall govern this agreement. Any acts or practices arising out of this contract will be governed by the provisions of 7 MRSA §4103-A, Liability for Equine Activities (the Act). In the event of a conflict between this contract and the 7 MRSA §4103-A, the 7 MRSA §4103-A shall apply, superseding contrary provisions of this contract. Disputes arising under this contract shall be determined in accordance with the law of the State of Maine.
- 4. First Right of Refusal:** It is agreed upon by both parties that should the Adopter ever decide to sell or re-home the above described horse, that the Adopter will convey the first right of adoption/sale to Riding To The Top. The Adopter will make every reasonable effort to contact the Owner and for the purpose and benefit of this part of the agreement, the Owner will advise the Adopter of their current mailing address, email, or other means of maintaining contact. Any individual or organization in possession of the equine described above as of the date of the agreement and any time thereafter is bound to not sell the equine at auction for slaughter or allow the equine to be sold, transferred, released, or otherwise placed into possession of any person or organization that will cause or allow the equine to be sold at auction for slaughter. Should the Owner decline the First Right of Refusal and the Adopter elects to sell, transfer, release or otherwise place the equine into the possession of another person or organization, and future adopter must agree to the terms of this Agreement as an addendum to any future transactions regarding the above described equine.

In Witness Whereof, the parties here to have signed and sealed this Agreement as of this date: _____.

Owner:

Signature of Riding To The Top Representative

14 Lilac Dr., Windham ME 04062

Address

Date

207-892-2813, X10

Phone

Adopter:

Signature

Date

Address

Phone