



## **HOPE AFTER RACING THOROUGHBREDS ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES**

HART has developed a plan to assist in the orderly and proper retiring of Thoroughbred race horses that race at Prairie Meadows Racetrack & Casino in Altoona, IA.

It is expected that the plan will change as it develops, and this is the explanation for its initial form.

***EVERYONE SHOULD UNDERSTAND THAT IT IS FUNDAMENTALLY THE RESPONSIBILITY AND OBLIGATION OF THE HORSE'S OWNER TO ARRANGE AND PAY FOR THE RETIRING OF THEIR RACE HORSES. THIS PLAN IS MEANT TO SUPPLEMENT AND FACILITATE THAT PHASE OF THE HORSE'S CARE.***

### Eligibility

Not all horses are eligible for the program. The horse to be retired must meet at least one of the following conditions:

- The horse's last race or work was at Prairie Meadows Racetrack & Casino, a veterinarian has certified that the horse can or should no longer race, and the trainer and owner regularly stable at the track
- The horse is an Iowa-bred and a veterinarian has certified that the horse can or should no longer race

***NO HORSE WILL BE ACCEPTED 30 DAYS AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE CURRENT YEARS PRAIRIE MEADOWS THOROUGHBRED MEET***

### Process Steps

1. The process is initiated by the current owner or trainer petitioning the HART Retired Horse Administrator to have the horse entered into the program by filling out the HART Intake Form.
2. It is determined by the HART Equine Welfare Committee that the horse is eligible.
3. The owner or trainer will surrender the horse's foal papers to the HART Equine Welfare Committee. If there are no foal papers, the horse is not eligible.
4. HART Equine Welfare Committee or its designee will counsel the owner (or the owner's agent – the trainer). The counseling consists of:
  - Explaining the program
  - Providing the owner (or agent) with a description of a potential tax benefit
  - Determining how much of the expense will be borne by the owner (for example, the van ride to the rescue farm, full or partial care at the rescue farm, vet care, etc.)
  - Completing the donation form with HART covering the retirement arrangement.
5. Following counseling, the HART Equine Welfare Committee determines if the horse should be accepted. This determination might be made based on many factors, such as:
  - Space availability
  - Cost
  - Sex of the horse (whole males may not qualify)
  - If a mare, if it could/should become a broodmare
  - Medical condition
  - Behavioral issues
  - Expected length of time at the facility
  - Potential next career for the horse
  - Etc.

HART Equine Welfare Committee consists of Dr. Brad Brown, Brandi Jo Fett & Dr. Theresa Humphreys