



**Sunshine Horses**

Helping Horses, Helping People

**Policies, Procedures, and Protocols**

<b>Title: Adoption Policy</b>	Original Date:	10/10/20
	Last Review Date:	
	Last Revised Date:	

**Approved by: Lauren McIndoo**

**Title: President**

**Date: 10/16/20**

Purpose	To establish fair and consistent adoption practices that will provide for the safest and best possible placement of our animals.
Content	<p><b><u>General Information</u></b></p> <p>It is the goal of Sunshine Horses, Inc. to find safe and loving ‘forever’ homes for their horses.</p> <p>The vast majority of horses available require an intermediate to advanced level of equine experience.</p> <p>Sunshine Horses, Inc. is not a boarding facility and cannot house anyone’s privately owned horse. Only horses legally owned by Sunshine Horses can be housed and cared for in our facility.</p> <p>From the time an adoption is approved, adopters will have up to 2 months to find an approved home for the horse. During this time, the adopter will be required to pay for any vet, dental, and/or farrier costs that may be required.</p> <p>In the event that placement takes longer than 30 days, adopters will be required to pay the full sponsorship amount of \$250 per month to cover the cost of food, hay, medications, etc.</p> <p>After 2 months, if an approved home for this horse is not found, the horse must be surrendered back to Sunshine Horses, Inc. and the horse will be placed back on the adoption list.</p> <p>Adoption fees are not refundable. However, in the event that an adoption falls through, an approved adopter may re-adopt the horse at the cost of \$1.00 providing that it is within 1 year of the initial approval. After 1 year, the adoption application becomes invalid and the adopter must re-apply (the regular adoption fee at that time will apply).</p> <p>Active volunteers will receive a \$100 discount off of the adoption fee.</p>



Current volunteers designated as ‘trainers’, and those that are fully sponsoring a horse, have the right of first refusal for those horses.

Without exception, horses will not be ‘saved’ or removed from the adoption list without an approved adoption application and paying the adoption fee in full.

In the event a current volunteer would like to adopt a horse at some point in the future, he/she should inform that Adoption Coordinator and Board of Directors. Sunshine Horses will make every effort to accommodate the volunteer’s wishes. Should another qualified adopter be found, the volunteer will be notified and given the chance to adopt the horse. If the volunteer is unable to adopt the horse at that time, the horse will be adopted to the other approved adopter.

**Adoption Fee Guidelines**

\$300- a ‘companion only’ horse that is older, has serious restrictions or health problems, or that has been with us for a long time

\$600- a horse that is middle-aged and rideable

\$800 to \$1000- a horse that is young/unique in appearance and has a lot of training and/or the potential to participate in many disciplines

\$1500- a horse that is young and has a lot of training in a specific discipline

\$3000- a horse that is unique in appearance, young, and has a lot of training in a specific discipline and could be a competitor in that discipline

**Adoption**

All potential adopters are required to complete the adoption application and placement contract. Adopters will be required to provide a copy of their driver’s license as well a credit report. A FICO credit rating of at least 650 is highly preferred.

Potential adopters are interviewed to determine their level of experience, what characteristics they are looking for in a horse, and what they would like the horse for (trail riding, design, companionship, etc.). We strive to make the best match possible between available horses and the adopter’s abilities, experience, and goals.

All potential adopters are required to perform a demonstration ride which will be evaluated by the Adoption Coordinator and other volunteers that are currently involved with the horse’s care and training. Should the potential adopter be unable to demonstrate competent and safe horsemanship, the adoption will be denied.



	<p>The Adoption Coordinator, or designee, must visit and approve the location where a horse will be housed prior to the horse leaving our facility.</p> <p>The Adoption Coordinator and those volunteers designated as ‘trainers’ for the horse involved will approve the adoption. If the group is undecided, the Board of Directors will make the final determination.</p> <p>Once the adoption is approved, the adoption fee must be paid in-full prior to picking up the horse and in order for the horse to be removed from the adoption list. This includes active volunteers pursuing adoption. Cash or cashier’s check are required.</p> <p>Transportation of the horse is the adopter’s responsibility.</p> <p>Transfer of ownership occurs on the day the horse leaves our facility.</p> <p><b><u>Postadoption</u></b></p> <p>Sunshine Horses reserves the right to make unannounced site visits to check on the welfare of the adopted animal.</p> <p>An updated placement contract is required anytime an adopted horse is moved to a new location.</p> <p>Adopters are required to submit annual vet checks. Regular immunizations and deworming are also required.</p> <p>In the event an adopter is no longer able to care for the horse, it must be returned to Sunshine Horses, Inc. The horse may be allowed to go directly to another home/facility only if approved in advance by the Adoption Coordinator and the Board of Directors.</p>
References	