

Texas Thoroughbred Association Foundation-- Retirement, Retraining and Placement of Racing Athletes

(Name will be developed by TTA membership write in contest – solicit membership for naming of foundation with recognition in publications and possible at large seat on board or advisory committee)

Mission Statement:

Our mission is to support and advance the care of the Accredited Texas Thoroughbred Racehorse after their racing careers by supporting rescue, retirement, rehabilitation, placement and ultimately finding them a good home.

Philosophical direction as to which horses are eligible for funding:

This foundation will limit its support and financial assistance to Accredited Texas Breds as determined by the TTA.

Philosophical direction as to which charities and organizations are eligible:

At the inception of this foundation we will focus on placement of retired or unwanted racehorses. As the foundation matures and gains appropriate funding our focus will also include organizations that retrain for second careers the TB race horse and organizations that provide for the retirement and care of the retired TB race horse.

Organizational Structure:

The foundation would be a non-profit 501c-3 organization.

Administrative support will be provided by the existing TTA staff.

An advisory committee or board of directors will be formed. It would consist of four to five individuals (? More) initially. (Committee Chair, Co-Chair, etc / President, Vice-president, Sec.-Treasurer, members at large, etc.). The goal would be to keep administrative cost to 4-5%. Therefore, 95 to 96 cents of every dollar handled by the foundation goes to direct support of our equine athletes.

Guidelines for Audit, Oversight, Application process for awarding funding, etc.

This would be patterned after existing programs and organizations such as
Thoroughbred Charities of America
Fasig-Tipton Blue Horse Charities
The Jockey Club Racehorse retraining & retirement fund
Other organizations with like goals and purpose

Short Term Goals:

1. Develop a highly visible, credible organization that will generate tremendous “Good Will” within the eyes of the public and state legislature.
2. Develop an internet – web based bulletin board, clearing house or brokerage for retired or unwanted ATB racehorses.

3. Develop supplemental, external funding and donations to provide financial support to our mission.
4. Develop a check off/opt-in program at the Texas sales venues, Texas race tracks (entries), Horsemen accounts and affiliated industry groups.
5. Develop an organizational frame work that can accommodate expansion and growth to other areas of need within our industry.
 - a. Fund equine research, award grants (equine health and welfare projects) at our veterinary college and land-grant schools with equine programs.
 - b. Assist therapeutic riding programs that utilize and involve the use of the retired thoroughbred racehorses.
 - c. Equine Educational Programs including those which provide equine based scholarship, husbandry and welfare of retired TB racehorses

Long Term Goals:

1. Expand the scope of the organization once financial resources are sufficient to award Research grants, assist therapeutic riding programs and Equine Educational Programs.
2. Develop a model program that other states and national organizations will look toward for structure, leadership and commitment to our retired athletes. *Texas and the TTA will be second to none in our commitment and compassion for our equine athletes.*
3. Develop a Named Stake Race of the foundation. Conditions will be that a % of the awarded purse will be donated back to the organization. Entry will be contingent upon participating in the Track or Horsemen's account check off program.