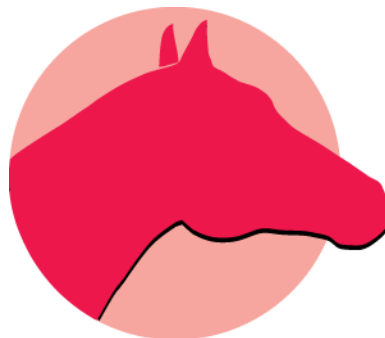


Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance



Mike Ziegler

Executive Director

NTRA Safety and Integrity Alliance



www.thoroughbredaftercare.org

Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance

- **Why was the TAA formed?**
- **TAA's Mission:**
 - Help in the effort of aiding our retired Thoroughbreds by:
 - Serving as an **Accrediting Body** for aftercare facilities that care for retired Thoroughbreds
 - Serving as a **Fundraising Body** to help raise the monies needed by these accredited aftercare facilities

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TAA's Supporters



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TAA- Accrediting Body

- As an **Accrediting Body**, the TAA is establishing a two step accreditation process that the aftercare facility must satisfy in order for them to receive accreditation, which would then allow the facility to apply for grants. Accreditation is based on TAA Code of Standards.

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Code of Standards

- The 2012 TAA Code of Standards covers the following areas:
 1. Operations
 2. Education
 3. Horse healthcare management
 4. Facility standards and services
 5. Adoption policies and protocols

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Code of Standards

1. Operations

Governance and program operations are the foundation of any Thoroughbred aftercare organization. Accredited organizations must demonstrate operational stability; financial transparency; sound and ethical business practices; responsible use of resources; and adherence to applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations. Accredited organizations shall provide evidence of:

- Federal not-for profit status as a 501 (c)(3). Organizations must be in good standing with the IRS and the state of incorporation and be registered to solicit charitable contributions. Organizations must have been in operation for a minimum of three years and be able to provide detailed financial and operational records.

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Code of Standards

1. Operations

- The organization's governing authority and program structure, including corporate/legal formation, organizational by-laws and operational overview. The organization shall have a Board of Directors that meets regularly and make available the minutes of all Board meetings upon request.
- Proof of facility/land ownership or a copy of a current leasing or boarding agreement for all applicable facilities used or owned by the organization.
- Up-to-date insurances, licenses, and permits required by law, including D&O insurance.

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Code of Standards

1. Operations

- Compliance with generally accepted accounting principles; copy of the most recently filed Form 990 (or applicable IRS filings, such as 990EZ); completed Statement of Functional Expenses corresponding with most recently filed 990; and profit & loss statements and balance sheet for current and prior year.
- Generally accepted banking procedures, including proof of a business checking account; protocols for check signing; and procedures for fund management, reporting and handling of contributions in accordance with IRS regulations.
- Loan repayment schedules if applicable.

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Code of Standards

1. Operations

- Conformance with generally accepted principles for fundraising and documentation of fundraising expenses and revenues.
- A sufficient number of qualified employees and/or volunteers shall be in place to insure proper running of the Program's administrative and horse care operations. Programs should aim to provide continuing education and training for all managerial, administrative and equine care staff members.

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Code of Standards

2. Education

How aftercare organizations educate the public, media, regulators, community officials, law enforcement personnel, legislators, regulators and others about humane aftercare of Thoroughbreds greatly affects not only the aftercare community itself but the Thoroughbred racing industry as a whole. Whenever possible, accredited organizations should work cooperatively with the Thoroughbred racing community to share media resources and increase public awareness of Thoroughbred aftercare to uphold the image and integrity of the horseracing industry. Accredited organizations shall:

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Code of Standards

2. Education

- Use best efforts to promote humane Thoroughbred aftercare through educational programs. Examples of educational programs include training demonstrations or seminars, having a booth at a racetrack or expo, or involvement with equine or youth programs such as Pony Clubs, 4-H, Scouts, college groups, etc.
- Provide basic marketing for their organizations and the horses in their care. Marketing may include website, television, radio, online, social media or print media.
- All media presented either via press release, internet, articles, or interviews should portray a positive outlook on Thoroughbred Aftercare and the racing industry.

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Code of Standards

3. Horse healthcare management

All facilities used by the organization, including foster farms, shall provide the necessary care needed to ensure the physical needs are being met for each horse. Qualified staff members or volunteers should work directly with a veterinarian to create a balanced health care management plan for the type of horses under their care. Accredited organizations shall substantially adhere to TAA's Best Practices for Horse Healthcare management. Accredited organizations shall:

- Have procedures in place to ensure that competent, experienced personnel – including staff, volunteers and veterinarians – are available at all times to oversee the facility's horse care.

Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance

Code of Standards

3. Horse healthcare management

- Describe the type of horses they are able to take in, the screening process for horses, quarantine and infectious disease prevention protocols, requirements for each horse upon arrival and procedures for documenting each horse's health history and treatments.
- Provide adequate feed, forage, and water to ensure optimal health for each horse.
- Provide regular hoof care (e.g. trimming or shoeing) and have access to a farrier or veterinarian to address hoof issues such as laminitis, thrush, etc.

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Code of Standards

3. Horse healthcare management

- Have a written euthanasia policy consistent with that of the American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP) and documentation of the policy application. The policy must include protocols for administering euthanasia according to the guidelines of the AAEP and detail protocols for disposal of dead horses as required by municipal, state, or federal regulations.
- Have a written policy on castration of stallions, with the exception of stallion retirement facilities.
- Have protocols for providing deworming, vaccinations and dental care on a regular basis.

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Code of Standards

4. Facility standards and services

Facility requirements will be assessed by the type of horses in the organization's care, such as horses on permanent retirement, horses being rehabilitated and horses receiving training for a second career. All facilities shall provide a safe environment that meets the physical and psychological needs of each horse under their care. Accredited organizations shall see that any facility caring for their horses, including foster farms, shall provide:

- Available source of shelter, such as run-in sheds or stalls, appropriate to the facility's geographic location and function(s) with respect to the horses it serves.

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Code of Standards

4. Facility standards and services

- Paddocks and pasture may not be fenced solely with barbed wire or other materials that may pose a hazard to horses or humans.
- Pasture land with sufficient acreage for the specific type of facility and enclosure to meet the needs of the horses served.
- If applicable, written guidelines for evaluating a horse to be retrained and for monitoring a horse's progress in retraining.

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Code of Standards

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Code of Standards

5. Adoption policies and protocols

Organizations whose mission involves adoption and or foster care of their horses should have set policies to ensure proper placement of each horse and to provide follow-up after a horse has been adopted out. Accredited organizations shall have:

- A thorough screening process for prospective adopters to ensure that a quality home is found for each horse. The screening process should demonstrate protocols to ensure that each adopter has sufficient equine skills and resources to manage and care for the horse.
- Protocols and liability insurance for enabling potential adopters to “test ride” a horse prior to adoption.

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Accreditation Application

- The Accreditation Application will be a thorough review focusing on:
 - Non-profit status
 - Length of time operating as an aftercare facility
 - Financial Stability
 - History of caring for Thoroughbreds
 - History of retraining and placing Thoroughbreds in adoptive homes
 - Experience of managerial staff and employees

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Accreditation Site Review

- The Accreditation Site Review will focus on the following:
 - Horses: appearance and carrying capacity of facility
 - Health Care Program: vaccination, worming, dental, farrier
 - Nutritional Program: feed, water, forage, pasture
 - Facility Condition: fencing, pastures, paddocks, equipment
- Collaboration with AAEP

Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance

TAA – Fundraising Body

- TAA Board President, Jack Wolf: “It is our responsibility as owners, tracks, breeders, trainers, jockeys, bloodstock agents, and anyone who has a stake in the game to take responsibility for the aftercare of these great animals that are the keystone of our sport.”
- As a **Fundraising Body**, the TAA will raise funds on behalf of accredited facilities via institutional contributions that are to be directed mainly to program services rather than to fundraising or general administrative costs.
- To fund the efforts of the TAA going forward, we envision small **Automatic Mandatory Contributions** from the various “touch points” from a horse’s career, and these include: Breeders, Sales Companies, Sale Consignors, Buyers at Sales, Owners, Trainers, Jockeys, Tracks and Breed Registries.

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Automatic Mandatory Contributions

"Many hands make light work." – John Haywood (1497-1580)

- The Automatic Mandatory Contributions from each of the targeted groups will be a "small fair share" from everyone who profits in anyway from the life of a Thoroughbred.
- This "small fair share" approach will be designed so that it is not an onerous burden on any one group

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TAA's Funding Participants

- Stallion Owners – 13 top farms in Kentucky
- Breeders – through registration
- Sales – Consignors, Buyers, and Sales Companies (Keeneland, Fasig-Tipton, OBS and Barretts)
- The Jockey Club
- Breeders' Cup – Fan Participation Program – “Text to Pledge”
- Racetracks – The Stronach Group
- Horsemen – CARMA

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TAA's Success Depends on:

- Participation from all touch points in the horse's life
 - Funding only part of the equation
 - Pro-bono work
- Continued success of existing programs
 - Many successful programs are in existence
 - TAA cannot supplant existing support
- Increase demand for the Thoroughbred

Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance

“The greatness of a nation can be judged by the way its animals are treated.”

- Mahatma Gandhi