

NEW START  
**NEWSLETTER**



**Kicking Up Fresh Tracks: Welcome to the New Start Newsletter!**

I'm thrilled to introduce you to a totally new look for our New Start Newsletter! This revamped format is designed to bring you closer to the heart of our mission: finding loving homes for Standardbreds and celebrating their incredible potential beyond the track.

Each quarter, we'll share success stories, spotlight our amazing horses and adopters, and keep you informed about our events, milestones, and opportunities to get involved. This newsletter is a reflection of the love and dedication that fuels our program.

Thank you for being part of our journey. Your support helps give these horses the second chance they so richly deserve. I hope this newsletter inspires you as much as our horses inspire us every day.

*~ Kimberly, President*

● **History: What's In A Name?**

Where did the name "Standardbred" come from? The Standardbred breed got its name from the establishment of specific speed standards for registration.

In the late 19th century, as harness racing grew in popularity in North America, there was a need to establish criteria for registering horses as a distinct breed suitable for racing. One crucial criterion was speed.

The American Trotting Register, founded in 1871, set a standard that a trotting horse had to trot a mile in 2 minutes and 30 seconds or better to be considered a "Standardbred". This time was considered an indicator of the horse's quality and suitability for harness racing.



# Saddle Up For Success

## Building Confidence for your Standardbred

*Standardbreds accustomed to the controlled environment of the racetrack may need exposure to a wider range of stimuli to prepare them for the unpredictability of riding in varied environments.*

- Gradually exposing your horse to new sights, sounds, and sensations in a controlled and systematic manner, starting with familiar objects and gradually introducing more challenging stimuli.
- Incorporating desensitization exercises, such as flagging, umbrella opening, and noisy objects, to teach your horse to remain calm and focused in the face of potential distractions.



## From Track to Trail



### Find Your Perfect Match: Adoptable Spotlight

## SPORTIKA

Sportika is an 8-year-old, 16hh mare, is a gentle, intelligent mare seeking her next chapter.

Despite limited vision, she's sound, pain-free, and eager to bond.

Whether as a loving companion or potential riding partner, she's ready to shine with the right care and patience.

**Read More on our website**



### ● Lend a Hand, Change a Life

We're facing over \$1,500 in outstanding veterinary bills for essential care, ensuring our horses stay healthy and ready for their next chapter. From routine checkups to specialized treatments, these expenses are critical.

Help us close this gap and start fresh in February—every contribution brings us closer to our goal of paying it off by the end of January. Together, we can make it happen!

**Goal:** \$1,500

Donate Via: [canadahelps.org/newstartstandardbreds](http://canadahelps.org/newstartstandardbreds)





**Stable Support Needed: Sponsor Big Journey Through His Rehabilitation**

Big Journey is a 10 year old gelding who joined our program in mid-December 2024, after suffering a career ending injury on the racetrack. He has a mild tear in his Deep Digital Flexor Tendon and requires stall rest until mid-February, but will be on limited turnout and exercise until the late Spring. This means he has a lot of care and rehabilitation ahead of him - and it is not cheap. We hope that you can consider sponsoring some of his costs as he goes on this journey back to wellness.

**Per Month:**

\$150 - Hay      \$100 - Grain      \$25 - Farrier      \$150 - Stall      \$100 - Therapy

*Visit Our Website For More Information on Sponsorships!*

## 2024 Successes

*In 2024, we celebrated a record breaking number of happy endings!*

I Bleed Blue  
Big Is Better  
Seeking Success  
Faye  
Duke  
Musical Ingot  
Alpha Major  
Zerah  
Have Faith In Nike  
Vette Man  
Betty  
EL Miss Aces  
Rockrockwhosthere  
Windsun Rain  
Rhea Blue Chip  
Better Art  
Zorgwijk Delicate  
Muscle Mach A  
Topgun Lady  
Lyons Warrior  
Ms Lis M  
Lyons Rock  
Atomic Yankee  
Change Stride N

Miss Toupie Girl  
Crafty Xample  
Mighty Max  
Draconian Prophet  
Beauty Delight  
Funny Magic  
Ultimate Art  
J Ds Dillinger  
Royal Arch  
Victorys Peanut  
Dashiki  
Lynx  
See R Chin Win  
Mister Big Top  
Chappiesboy  
Stonebridge Flores  
She Butterfly  
Risk Seeker  
Rose Master MC  
Zebs Sunofabeach  
Fomo  
Big Joe Doby  
Charlottes Star  
Efbeye  
Nebupanezzar

Americam Idol  
Extreme Measure  
Real Rocker  
Thoughtsofjupiter  
Dueling Banjos  
What Can I Say  
Truly Regal  
Prince Giovanni  
Muscle Ave  
Roman  
Brookdale Gia  
Noshameinmygame  
Huggies Spirit  
Southwind Ricardo  
Screen Test  
First Light  
Hammish  
Thee Impressionist  
Turbo Timmy  
Duke  
Oaklea Uranium  
Rochas Ball  
Farrell  
Miss Rosemond

Same Old Story  
Earl Jones  
Zebs Katrina  
Mooseport  
Intrepid Seelster  
Jetmaster  
Ontheclock Hanover  
Moses Enfield  
Putnams Fire  
Dress To Suggest



**In Memoriam:**

**Those We Lost in 2024**

*In 2024, we said heartfelt goodbyes to beloved members of our program. These cherished horses touched our lives deeply and will forever be remembered for their unique spirits and the joy they brought to those who knew them. They may be gone, but their legacy lives on.*

- Idontwanabefriends
- I Bleed Blue
- Pillars Magic
- Shaykh Rumba
- Siddall
- Nats Little Buddy
- Justins Choice
- Mileys Big World
- Hecate
- Manhattan Killean
- Cowboys Like Us
- Douceur Derable
- Justdowhatyoucando
- Itaintezbeincheesy
- Clan Boss Kane
- Hornby Heart
- Mathers Marilyn



**2025 Trainers Challenge**

Get ready for the 2025 Reinventing Racehorses Trainers Challenge! This thrilling event showcases talented trainers transforming retired Standardbreds into versatile equine stars.

Whether under saddle, in harness, or showcasing new skills, the possibilities are endless!

**Trainers, don't miss your chance to be part of the action—submissions are open now and close February 28, 2025. Show the world what these incredible horses can do!**

Visit our website for details and application info and let's make 2025 unforgettable!

*The Reinventing Racehorses Trainers Challenge is a dynamic competition that highlights the versatility of Standardbreds beyond the track. Selected trainers will work with retired racehorses over a period of 12 weeks, transforming them into riding partners.*

*The challenge culminates in an exciting showcase where horses and trainers demonstrate their progress, competing for prizes and recognition.*

*This event promotes adoption and proves the endless potential of Standardbreds. Join us to celebrate these incredible transformations!*

*At New Start, our commitment extends beyond just finding homes for these wonderful animals; it's about creating lasting bonds and ensuring their well-being for years to come.*

*Thank you for considering adopting or rehoming a Standardbred through our program.*

*We're excited to connect with you and facilitate a harmonious match that brings joy and fulfillment to both horse and adopter.*

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