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## FINALIZING AN ADOPTION

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This policy outlines the adoption agreement terms, fee structure, and foster-to-adopt program of New Start Standardbreds, ensuring the well-being of Standardbred horses and successful placements into suitable homes.

### 1. ADOPTION AGREEMENT

#### Terms and Conditions:

- **Care Commitment:** Adopters agree to provide proper care, including adequate shelter, nutrition, medical attention, and companionship, ensuring the horse's well-being.
- **Non-Transferability:** The horse may not be sold, leased, or transferred without prior written consent from New Start Standardbreds.
- **Return Policy:** If unable to continue care, adopters must return the horse to New Start Standardbreds, ensuring the horse's safety and continuity of care.
- **Prohibited Activities:** The horse shall not be used for racing, breeding, or any activities that may compromise its health or safety.
- **Follow-Up:** Adopters agree to periodic check-ins by New Start Standardbreds to ensure compliance with the adoption agreement and the horse's well-being.

### 2. ADOPTION FEE STRUCTURE

#### Standard Adoption Fees:

- **Amount:** Adoption fees range from \$0 to \$5,000, based on factors such as age, training, and health status.
- **Inclusions:** Fees cover initial veterinary care, vaccinations, deworming, and any necessary rehabilitation provided by New Start Standardbreds.
- **Purpose:** As New Start Standardbreds operates entirely on donations, fundraisers, and adoption fees, these fees support the ongoing rescue, rehabilitation, and rehoming efforts.

#### Special Considerations:

- **Donations:** While adoption fees are standard, additional donations are deeply appreciated to further support the organization's mission.
- **Fee Adjustments:** In certain cases, such as adopting horses with special needs or senior horses, fees may be adjusted or waived to facilitate their placement into loving homes.

### 3. FOSTER-TO-ADOPT PROGRAM

**Purpose:**

The foster-to-adopt program allows potential adopters to foster a horse temporarily, ensuring a suitable match before finalizing the adoption.

**Process:**

- **Application:** Prospective foster-to-adopt participants must complete a foster application, providing details about their facilities, experience, and ability to care for the horse.
- **Screening:** New Start Standardbreds conducts thorough screening, including interviews, reference checks, and site visits, to ensure a safe environment.
- **Foster Period:** The standard foster period is 90 days, during which the foster caregiver assesses compatibility and the horse's adjustment.
- **Support:** New Start Standardbreds provides ongoing support, including guidance on care and training, to facilitate a successful transition.
- **Adoption Decision:** At the end of the foster period, the caregiver can choose to finalize the adoption, adhering to the standard adoption agreement and fee structure, or return the horse to New Start Standardbreds.

**Responsibilities:**

- **Care Standards:** Foster caregivers must meet all care standards outlined by New Start Standardbreds, ensuring the horse's health and safety.
- **Communication:** Regular updates on the horse's progress are required, maintaining open communication with New Start Standardbreds.

By participating in the adoption or foster-to-adopt program, individuals agree to adhere to the terms outlined in this policy, ensuring the welfare of the horses and the integrity of New Start Standardbreds's mission.