

Gift & Loan Policy



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It is essential, whenever an RDA Group takes on an equine as a gift or loan, that the group has a written agreement to avoid possible problems in the future. Experience has shown that having the terms of a loan/gift set out from the start can help the group to manage situations more easily and protect themselves from possible issues including provisions for a change in circumstances. The agreement must be carefully drawn up to suit each individual case and must be signed and dated by both parties.

RDA strongly recommends that groups have an equine on trial before agreeing to have them on loan or taking them on as a gift. Before final acceptance of an equine, we expect a Pre-Purchase Examination by a Vet to ensure that it is physically capable of doing the work required. As required by law we expect ALL equines to be microchipped and have an up-to-date passport.

Below we have outlined what should be included in an agreement between a group and an owner. There are also draft agreements that groups can edit and change to suit the terms that they would like to agree.

For an equine leaving RDA we have a transfer of ownership form which can be found on Equine page of Myrda.

Trial

As a safeguard against misunderstanding and recriminations, the following points should be agreed in writing before the equine goes on trial:

- a) Length of trial – particularly if the equine turns out to be unsuitable
- b) Details of insurance cover
- c) Responsibility for Veterinary expenses
- d) A clause covering possible euthanasia

If the equine is unsuitable, it should be returned at the group's expense.

Loan

As well as who is responsible for veterinary treatment and details of insurance, the agreement should include:

- a) The duration of the loan (indefinite or a stated time)
- b) Where the equine may be kept
- c) By whom it may be used
- d) Action to be taken should the equine become redundant for any reason including ill health, retirement or the group have to close on temporary or permanent basis
- e) Details of insurance cover

Gifts

A written agreement in the case of direct gifts is similar to that for an equine on loan but without the return element. It should be clear:

- a) Whether the owner wishes to give the equine completely to the group and does NOT want to have it offered back (completion of the slip at the foot of the Agreement Form will confirm this) and whether any updates or contact is requested
- b) What action should be taken if the group circumstances change, or the equine becomes redundant
- c) Details of Insurance cover