

APPLICATION FORM - HORSE

Horse Name: Brand:

Breeding:

DOB: Stable Name:

Sex: Mare / Gelding (please circle) Height:

Horse Colour (including white markings):

.....

Location (including street name and number):

Last known trainer (name & contact phone number):

Why was this horse retired?

How long has the horse been spelling?

Does this horse have any known health issues/injuries (ie bleeder, tendon, roarer etc)?

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If the horse was retired due to an or has any current injuries or issues, have they ever been assessed by a veterinarian? If so, please detail outcome and attach any relevant vet reports.

.....

Does this horse have any significant conformation issues (ie club foot, roach back etc)?

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Does this horse have any known vices (ie windsucking/kicking etc)?

.....

Has the horse been ridden previously?

Has the horse been exposed to dogs/farm animals/machinery/vehicles/small children?

.....

Describe the horse's ground manners (leading, standing still etc):

.....

Can the horse be paddocked safely with other horses? YES / NO

Does the horse tie up safely? YES / NO

Does the horse have any known issues loading/floating:

.....

Does the horse behave for the farrier: YES / NO

Is the horse currently shod: YES / NO

Last known worming:

Last known dental check up:

Last known vaccination (if any):

Veterinarian name and contact number:

Any other relevant information:

.....

I declare that to the best of my knowledge the above information is a true and accurate

description of the Standardbred horse

Print Name:

Signed:

Date:

I have read and agree to the accompanying HERO Information Sheet 2021.

I agree that upon entry into the HERO Program, my horse will be de-registered for racing and breeding purposes. I acknowledge this de-registration cannot be reversed.

I agree that my horse will be assessed by a HRV vet for suitability prior to being formally accepted into HERO.

I agree that I have read and understand the accompanying information.

I agree to be contacted by the chosen HERO Registered Retrainer should they wish to speak with me about my horse.

I agree that should my horse be found to have physical or psychological issues which render it unsuitable for re-educating, it will be returned to me at my own expense.

I agree that at the conclusion of its re-education, my horse will be on-sold/rehomed, with any proceeds of the sale going to the Retrainer.

I understand that while Harness Racing Victoria takes all reasonable measures to ensure the health, wellbeing and safety of horses enlisted in the HERO program, it cannot be held responsible for my horse's care, either during its retraining or after being on-sold/rehomed.

Print Name:

Signed:

Email:

Phone:

Date:

Please complete and email to hero@hrv.org.au along with a conformation photo and any veterinary reports.

If you have any photos of your horse racing during their career or in work around your facility please include these with your application – these are for the horses HERO graduation certificates.

Please consider the following information before deciding whether the HERO program is right for you and your horse:

- Horses are added to the HERO Register once their entry paperwork (HERO Application Form and HRA Deregistration Form) has been received and approved.
- HERO does not discriminate based on race performance or appearance; however, horses **must** be of sound mind and body.
- HERO horses remain in the care of their racing owner until a placement becomes available.
- It is the racing owner's responsibility to deliver the horse to HERO or cover the cost of transportation.
- Broodmares will only be accepted up to the age of 12.
- HERO does not accept colts or stallions.
- HERO does not accept Standardbreds which have previously been rehomed outside of racing.
- HERO horses are donated to the Program. No payment is made.
- Horses must have at least four weeks to let down before commencing HERO retraining.
- Horses must be paddock sound before joining HERO.
- Horses must be in good physical condition, up to date with worming and have tidy feet.
- All HERO horses are deregistered for racing and breeding purposes.
- Any known injury or health issues must be disclosed via the HERO Application Form.

You may seek alternate opportunities while your horse is awaiting a HERO placement but must advise if it is rehomed elsewhere so it can be removed from the waiting list.

Horses placed with a HERO registered re-trainer but subsequently deemed to be unsuitable for re-education due to physical or mental unsoundness will be returned to the racing owner at the racing owner's expense.

Preparing your horse to be a HERO:

An important part of being accepted into the HERO retraining program is assessing your horse's suitability for the next part of their career. There are several steps to this process including:

- Obtaining a comprehensive description of the horse from you including veterinary and racing history, temperament, likes and dislikes, experience (e.g. has the horse been previously ridden, ease of handling, shoeing etc)
- Obtaining good "conformation" photos that show your horse to best advantage.
- Copy of veterinary records including details of past and current injuries/illnesses, vaccination status, dental care, parasite management etc send to our HRV veterinarians for review.
- Physical examination by HRV veterinarians which will include examination of eyes, feet, legs, teeth, skin, a trot up to check for lameness, body condition score and an assessment of temperament.

As HERO is all about optimising the athletic potential of the Standardbred horse, athleticism and temperament are an important part of the assessment process. Horses that do not meet the standards are less likely to be accepted into the program. You have an important role in ensuring your horse is successful. This guide is written to help you prepare your horse for the assessment process.

Obtain some "show piece" conformation photos of your horse to be included in the information pack provided to the retrainers. (See example of side conformation below)

- Take a photo of either side of your horse, one from the rear and one from the front showcasing their head.
- To get side photos, place your horse's entire body, including its head, at a 90-degree angle to the camera. This, and standing your horse on level ground, will ensure that its proportions appear accurate in the photo.
- Place your horse in a well-lit, simple setting with little distractions.
- Fit your horse's entire body in the picture, but make sure your horse isn't so far away that it's hard to see.

Once your horse's application has been processed by HERO, one of the HRV veterinarians will contact you to make a time to examine your horse. Prior to the veterinary examination:

1. Ensure your horse is cleared by your stable veterinarian for a ridden career. Obtain your horse's veterinary history from your stable veterinarian and email it to HRV veterinarians prior to their examination visit. Dr Nick Branson's email is nbranson@hrv.org.au while Dr Lesley Hawson's email is lhawson@hrv.org.au.
2. Ensure that your horse has a body condition score of 2.5. Horses with body condition scores below this will not be accepted into the program.
3. Ensure that your horse has had its teeth floated within the last 12 months, its feet are trimmed and balanced and its vaccinations for tetanus and strangles are up to date.
4. Ensure your horse has no active wounds, eye or skin conditions or injuries evident. If your horse is suffering any problem at this time talk to HERO about pushing the assessment process back until the problem is resolved.
5. Ensure your horse is not lame or sore in the back. Lame or sore horses will not be admitted into the HERO program.
6. Ensure your horse is comfortable with a stranger examining it and it can be led calmly at trot over a 40 metre path. Horses that cannot be examined fully, including a trot up for lameness, will not be admitted to the HERO program.

Conformation Example:

