



# Trial Placement Policy & Procedure

Effective Date: 11/1/2013

Last Modified: 11/1/2013

## POLICY

Gentle Spirit Horses Rescue & Sanctuary, Inc.'s (GSH) policy is to provide a 30-day trial placement for every adoption. It is our goal to make the best match between horse and human, and it takes time to determine if this is possible

## SCOPE & ELIGIBILITY

To qualify for the 30-day trial placement, an adopter must:

- Have a signed, approved application on file with GSH
- Complete a trial placement and adoption contract for the specific horse you will be trying
- Submit payment in full of the adoption fees and any transport/veterinary costs

## PROCEDURE

Upon completion of these items, GSH will photograph and prepare a written inspection of the horse's condition and make the horse available for transport. The adopter is responsible for all costs of transport incurred. During the 30 day trial period, the horse's position at GSH will remain open and the adoption fee funds will be held in trust.

If, at any time during the 30 days, it becomes apparent that the horse and adopter are not a good fit, the adopter will need to make arrangements to return the equine to the GSH facility that is holding an open spot. If an approved foster or other GSH location is closer and has space, attempts will be made to take the horse in at that location. Upon return of the horse, GSH will refund the adoption fees less a 10% application fee, and any outstanding transport or veterinary fees. The adopter is responsible for all costs of transport in returning the horse to GSH.

If upon return to GSH the horse has suffered an injury or illness (due to improper care including but not limited to improper feeding, improper farrier work or failure to trim, failure to vaccinate, etc) that requires veterinary care or is debilitating to the point it restricts the usefulness of the horse, the adoption fee will be forfeited to help cover the expenses of rehab for the equine.

If, at any time during the 30 day trial period the adopter wishes to make the adoption final, the adopter just needs to email GSH and inform us of that decision. At that time the adoption fee will be removed from the trust fund and considered non-refundable, and the equine's position at GSH will be open to be filled. At that point the terms of the adoption contract take effect.

Any amendments to this agreement relating to a specific horse must be agreed upon in writing by both GSH and the adopter. For example, from time to time GSH may take in a horse without an open spot in our program at the specific request for a trial placement with a home. In a situation such as this, both adopter and GSH must agree that the adopter will continue to foster the horse until such time that the horse is placed or a spot opens up at a GSH location or other foster if the trial placement does not work out.