

American Paint Horse Breed Association New Zealand Incorporated.

Objectives:

This Association is for the Production, Performance and Prosperity of Paints and their People

Foreword

The organization we know as the American Paint Horse Association was formed as the American Paint Stock Horse Association in 1962 to collect, record and preserve the pedigrees of Paint Horses in the USA. In 1965, the American Paint Stock Horse Association and the American Paint Quarter Horse Association consolidated to form the American Paint Horse Association. Since that time 'Paints' have become increasingly popular and there have been multiple horses imported into New Zealand.

Mission Statement:

1) Welfare Code of Practice

Introduction

Our horse community is committed to the safety, health, care and welfare of all horses and to always "Put the Horse First." We address equine welfare and responsible care

(1) by supporting a uniform Code of Practice regarding the responsible breeding, training, competing, care, use, enjoyment, health, transportation, and retirement of horses; and

(2) by initiating communication with the public, the media, officials and within the horse community regarding these issues.

2) Our Commitment to all Horses and the Horse Community

WE ARE COMMITTED to the principle that the welfare and safety of the horse is the guiding principle in the decision-making process for all owners, service providers, organizations, events and activities.

WE ARE COMMITTED to the dignity, humane care, health, safety and welfare of horses in all our activities and care. These are our highest priorities. We are the stewards of our horses and must be firm in the standards and practices that guide us. The welfare, safety and stewardship of the horse is the guiding principle in the decision-making process for all segments for the horse community.

WE ARE COMMITTED to promoting responsible breeding practices and to produce better horses, not just more horses.

WE ARE COMMITTED to responsible training techniques. All training should be done with the maturation and ability of the horse considered. Horses should be prepared for competition with proper training and conditioning methods. Excessive disciplining methods, whether in stables, training areas or during competition, will not be tolerated.

WE ARE COMMITTED to educating owners, trainers, veterinarians, competitors, exhibitors and recreational riders to ensure that they know and respect their horse's abilities and limits, and their own, so as to not push the horse or themselves beyond their ability level.

WE ARE COMMITTED to making all competitions fair and ensuring all competitors an equal opportunity to succeed. Performance-enhancing drugs, practices or equipment have no place in competitions or exhibitions. Effective drug testing by accredited laboratories is essential to the safety and welfare of our horses and the public support of competitions, with appropriate penalties levied for violations. The welfare of the horse must take precedence over the demands or expectations of owners, breeders, trainers, sellers, buyers, organizers, sponsors, officials, or spectators.

WE ARE COMMITTED to the welfare of the horse as paramount during competition. The horse community should invest in the infrastructure, environment and facilities to provide a safe environment for all horses in all activities, whether breeding, competing, or simply riding. Any facilities that house horses should be committed to the appropriate care and treatment of all horses while in their facility, and should be designed with the environment and the intended use of the horse in mind.

WE ARE COMMITTED to minimizing injuries to horses during training, competition, use, or work. Whenever possible injury data should be collected, documented and reported to the governing body of the competition or any other injury database for analysis in order to ensure a safer environment.

WE ARE COMMITTED to the continual review, evaluation and improvement of all rules, regulations, policies and practices in all equine activities, based on science (where indicated). When warranted, they should be refined or changed. This includes existing practices to ensure they are not being perceived as acceptable, particularly if new research has called them into question.

WE ARE COMMITTED to providing continuing education on all activities involving horses and eliminate inhumane practices as well as strengthening sanctions for non-compliance.

WE ARE COMMITTED to educating all people who own or work with horses to ensure they are knowledgeable in the proper husbandry, care, and handling of horses. Each horse should be observed frequently to ensure that they are healthy. In consultation with a veterinarian, all such individuals should develop a sound health care program, appropriate to the facilities, environment and needs of the horses.

WE ARE COMMITTED to providing an environment in which anyone aware of equine cruelty or neglect is willing to report it to the proper local, or national authorities. Should an incident occur at an event it should be reported to judges, stewards, responsible authorities or the sanctioning

organization.

WE ARE COMMITTED to improving the health and welfare of horses through scientific research, collaboration, advocacy and the development of appropriate rules. The community should continue to support and work with the many individuals, universities, veterinarians and foundations doing and funding equine health and welfare research in order to reduce injuries and improve health.

WE ARE COMMITTED to horse owners and caretakers ensuring horses in their care are current on vaccinations and following best practices to minimize infection and disease. When a disease outbreak occurs horse owners and events must act quickly and responsibly, monitor the horses, report the outbreak to, and cooperate with, veterinarians, authorities, facility management and all stakeholders to bring a rapid resolution to the outbreak.

WE ARE COMMITTED to ensuring that our horses will have an opportunity to transition to additional careers, uses or activities as the need arises. When necessary, owners and veterinarians may have to consider end-of-life decisions. The welfare, safety and dignity of the horse must continue to be the guiding principle in deciding how and when to provide a humane death.

WE ARE COMMITTED to being transparent about our activities in order to ensure the public, the media, national and local officials and the various segments of the horse community understand what we do, why we do it, and support it. The standard by which conduct or treatment will be measured is that which a reasonable person, informed and experienced in generally accepted animal husbandry standard and equine care, training and exhibition procedures would determine to be neither cruel, abusive nor inhumane. Based on these principles, the Association has developed and enforces strict rules to ensure ethical completion and humane treatment of American Paint Horses in New Zealand. The Association supports the development of procedures that assure equity, fairness, safety, health and welfare for all participants. Because the association is strongly opposed to animal abuse, any member convicted in a court of law of cruelty to animals may be suspended from the American Paint Horse Breed Association New Zealand Incorporated when certified evidence is presented to the Committee . See Rule GR-42.F., GR-37.A.1., GR-41.A. & D., SC-075 and SC-160.P.