

QOTT ACKNOWLEDGED RETRAINERS PROGRAM

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Following the launch of the QOTT Acknowledged Retainers Program, please find below a list of frequently asked questions relating to the QOTT Acknowledged Retainers and the services they provide. The answers have been collated to assist industry participants in understanding how the QOTT Acknowledged Retainers network can be utilised to assist horses transitioning to a second career post racing.

Who are the QOTT Acknowledged Retainers?

QOTT Acknowledged Retainers operate separately to QOTT, however have gained their 'QOTT Acknowledged Retainer' status based on being held in high regard within the industry, as well as for their skill, experience and track record in successfully retraining and rehoming thoroughbred or standardbred horses. To find out more about each of the QOTT Acknowledged Retainers, including how to get in contact with them, please click on their individual pages here:

<https://www.racingqueensland.com.au/animal-care/off-the-track/acknowledged-retrainers>

QOTT Acknowledged Retainers will objectively assess the suitability and character of each horse, provide the necessary education and retraining to assist them with their transition to a second career as a pleasure, therapy or performance horse and rehome them accordingly, matching the horse to the skill and aspiration of a prospective owner and therefore ensuring each horse is best placed for future success in a new home.

Do I still need to submit a Retirement Notification Form if I send my horse to a QOTT Acknowledged Retainer?

Yes, as per the Australian Rules of Racing (Thoroughbreds) and the Australian Harness Racing Rules (Standardbreds), a retirement notification must be submitted for every horse upon retirement. It is the responsibility of all racing participants to ensure they follow the current rules of racing at all times. When consigning a horse to a QOTT Acknowledged Retainer, state the retirement location as being with the QOTT Acknowledged Retainer. When the horse is subsequently rehomed, the QOTT Acknowledged Retainer provides further traceability information directly to QOTT.

Are QOTT Acknowledged Retainers able to take on 'problem' horses?

QOTT Acknowledged Retainers have been selected based on their ability and experience in dealing with thoroughbreds and standardbreds of all shapes, sizes, abilities and spirits. However, unless by prior agreement, and with full disclosure of any potentially problematic or dangerous behaviour, QOTT Acknowledged Retainers should not be expected to provide the service of a horse breaker, rehabilitation facility, or behavioural specialist. A horse that requires any of these services, should be sent to the relevant professional in the first instance.

Who is expected to cover the cost or provide transport for the horse to the QOTT Acknowledged Retainer?

It is QOTT's expectation that the registered owner/s of the horse will cover the cost of transport to the QOTT Acknowledged Retainer's property. For horses retiring from industry who are located in regional areas of Queensland and more than 500km from a QOTT Acknowledged Retainer, the registered owner/s may be eligible to receive a QOTT Travel Subsidy to subsidise the cost of the transport of the horse to the QOTT Acknowledged Retainer. Please contact the team at offthetrack@racingqueensland.com.au for further information.

What is my financial obligation to the horse whilst it is with the QOTT Acknowledged Retainer?

Generally, QOTT Acknowledged Retainers do not rely on payment for their services or horses' upkeep, and instead, generate income by subsequently selling the horses placed into their care. Whilst an ongoing payment for retraining is not normally required, all arrangements made regarding retraining and rehoming services are between the QOTT Acknowledged Retainer and the relevant parties. It is important to remember that QOTT Acknowledged Retainers tailor their retraining and rehoming programs to the individual requirements of each horse.

It is QOTT's expectation that all horses should be consigned to QOTT Acknowledged Retainers recently shod, in good body condition, physically sound and ready to start work following a minimum six (6) week let-down period. You will be asked by the QOTT Acknowledged Retainer about your horse's worming program, as well as the dates of your horse's last vaccination/s and dental examination and treatment. If your horse requires veterinary care, treatment, spelling and/or rehabilitation, it is QOTT's expectation that this will be completed by the registered owner/s, prior to consigning the horse to the QOTT Acknowledged Retainer.

QOTT Acknowledged Retainers operate on extremely tight profit margins and each cost incurred to provide retraining and rehoming services is significant. In addition to the support provided to QOTT Acknowledged Retainers by the 1% equine welfare prize money levy, ensuring that your horse is fit, healthy and sound prior to consigning your horse to the QOTT Acknowledged Retainer is extremely important in ensuring QOTT Acknowledged Retainers remain financially viable and able to service the industry.

Am I able to stay in touch with my horse after it has been rehomed by a QOTT Acknowledged Retainer?

Absolutely! Providing the new owner of your horse is happy for this happen, QOTT Acknowledged Retainers will be more than happy to pass on contact details, allowing you to remain in touch with your horse and follow their progress in their new career.

If you have a question relating to the QOTT Acknowledged Retainers Program which hasn't been addressed here, please contact the team at offthetrack@racingqueensland.com.au