

# **FOSTER CHECKLIST**

Below is a checklist for foster homes to have at their fingertips in order to comply with the Fostering Policy and the Minimum Standards of Care.

## **Upon arrival of a new horse, the foster home shall:**

- Maintain the horse on a de-worming schedule
  - Maintain the horse to a farrier schedule
  - Evaluate the horse's level of training to the best of his/her ability
  - Complete an Horse ID form within one week and submit a copy of that form to the Black Diamond Rescue & Rehab Inc
  - Submit front, back, left, and right view photos of the horse to Black Diamond Rescue & Rehab Inc within one week
  - Ensure that the horse has had routine veterinary procedures performed in accordance with the Standard Veterinary Care Policy (see below)
1. Coggins, if not already obtained
  2. Rabies
  3. VEWT
  4. Flu/Rhino
  5. WNV
  6. Strangles, if young horse or chance of infection

## **On a monthly basis the foster home shall:**

- The foster home will report by email, postal mail, or by phone: the condition, health, etc. of the fostered horse(s) once a month
- The foster home caring for any foster horse with a body condition score of 4 or less shall submit a weight tape reading to Black Diamond Rescue & Rehab Inc every 30 days, along with the current feeding program (to include feed brand, amount fed and number of feeding per day, type and quantity of forage)

## **Members of Black Diamond Rescue & Rehab Inc may remove a foster home's "approved" status if the foster home:**

- Neglects or abuses an horse
- Fails to comply with inspections
- Fails to make the horse available to approved adopters
- Fails to complete and submit the Horse ID form and photographs with a reasonable amount of time
- Fails to comply with the Minimum Standards of Care Policy

- Moves a fostered horse without approval of Black Diamond Rescue & Rehab Inc or an officer (in accordance with the Trailing Policy). When a foster home's "approved" status is removed, BDRR will remove any current fostered horses from the foster home's care

### **Minimum Standards of Care include:**

#### **Feeding**

- Nutritious grain with appropriate nutritive value unless horses are receiving adequate natural forage
- Diet shall be prepared with consideration for the age, breed/type, condition, size, work level and quantity of horse(s)
- Horses will have no less than a body score of 4 and no more than 6 on the Henneke Condition Scoring Chart. Exceptions are made for arrivals on premises less than six months and showing continued documented improvement or for horses under the continued care of a veterinarian.
- Horses with a body condition of less than 4 are expected to improve at the rate of 1 body condition score every month, with a 30-day grace period.
- The foster home caring for any foster horse with a body condition score of 4 or less shall submit a weight tape reading to Black Diamond Rescue & Rehab Inc every 30 days, along with the current feeding program (to include feed brand, amount fed and number of feedings per day, type and quantity of forage).
- Horses with a BC over a 6 should be put on a diet to help them lose weight. Within three months, the horse should show significant weight loss and progress towards his/her ideal weight.
- All feed and hay storage shall be kept clean and free from contaminants, such as feces, mold, mildew, insects, etc.
- If animals are fed in a group setting, the foster home will be responsible to ensure that each animal receives quality nutrition in sufficient quantity.
- Horses should receive 2% of their body weight in high quality hay per day, unless they are receiving adequate natural forage. With exceptions to horses needing less to maintain an acceptable body condition score, or for those who are on a diet for weight loss.

#### **Necessary Veterinary Care**

Foster home will contact Black Diamond Rescue & Rehab Inc or an officer of, if a horse seems to be suffering from any of the below to obtain approval to obtain veterinary care except in an emergency in which the foster will get the care needed for the horse and let Black Diamond Rescue & Rehab Inc know within 2 days.

- Shock
- Colic

- Founder
- Trembling or inability to stand or walk
- Broken Bone
- Deep Tissue Wound
- Inability or unwillingness to eat or drink
- Blistering or burns
- Irregular or abnormal breathing
- Partial or total paralysis
- Abnormal discharge
- Severe bleeding
- Continued symptoms of heavy intestinal parasite load despite adequate worming
- Weight Loss
- Abnormal skin condition
- Hair loss
- Temperature fluctuation
- Diarrhea
- Lameness

### **Standard Care**

- Hoof care maintenance and trimming every six (6) to eight (8) weeks or as directed by a veterinarian or a farrier. An experienced person knowledgeable in standard farrier practice shall do hoof care. Exceptions may be made for horses who are not yet tame enough to have their feet handled
- Hooves shall be cleaned out at least once/week. Exceptions may be made for horses that are not yet tame enough to have their feet handled.
- Parasites kept under control through either a daily deworming product or by deworming every eight (8) to twelve (12) weeks or as directed by a veterinarian.
- Annual veterinary procedures as outlined in the Standard Veterinary Procedures Policy shall be performed.

### **Dental Care**

- Routine Dental work (floating) shall be performed at least once/year by a qualified veterinarian or horse dentist.
- Non-routine dental work shall be provided as needed in a reasonable amount of time. Approval for non-routine dental work must be sought per the Veterinary Procedures Policy.

### **Water**

- Clean water
- Have access to water at all times.

## **Space and Shelter**

- A safe space for each horse
- Good safe fencing
- Adequate exercise
- Stalled horses turned out daily, if possible
- If no man-made shelter, must have trees
- Man-made shelter must be available for ill and elderly horses
- All shelter must have good ventilation
- Any cattle guard on the property will be fenced or gated off so that horses do not have access to it.