

Approval of Stabling Site Guidelines Ontario Standardbred Adoption Society

*OSAS first priority when it comes to site inspections of prospective adoption homes is security, and safety. If you have any questions please call the office for clarification. The final approval of a site is given by the Board of Directors and/or the Program Coordinator. **It is very important to remember year round that the horse has the proper bedding and shelter. This comes first and foremost for the horse's well-being.***

Barn

- ◇ *Condition/Cleanliness -*
- ◇ Is there an odor in the barn?
- ◇ Are the aisles clear of debris?
- ◇ Is there a safe passage for the horses and people?
- ◇ We recommend a non-slippery surface for the floor.

Ventilation -

- ◇ Is there fresh air in the barn? Not a damp smell. Windows and doors that can be opened if necessary.
- ◇ Do the windows have bars/wire or are plexi glass?

Fire Extinguisher-

- ◇ They must have one in working order. They must have one **in** the barn.

Stalls

- ◇ *Size of stalls -* No standing stalls allowed. Must be 10x10 or larger. Measure the stall to be sure. Use discretion. If they want a small horse it could be a little smaller but not for a bigger horse.
- ◇ If there are spaces between the boards then they should be less than 4 inches or over 6 inches between each board. Measure to make sure.
- ◇ If wood is pressure treated it should have creosote on it as it is toxic if chewed.
- ◇ Particle Board should also have creosote on as it is also toxic.
- ◇ If a wire grill separates the stalls, there should be no rough edges or any wire sticking out. No openings large enough for a hoof or head to get stuck.

- ◇ What is used as a door latch? Not tied with twine. They need a proper heavy duty latch or two hooks. One at the bottom and one at the top of the door. Is there anywhere for a horse to catch halter on or to open.
- ◇ Is it out of reach?

Stall walls

- ◇ Kick the walls; they must be able to with stand a horse kicking.
- ◇ No loose boards allowed.
- ◇ Check for nails and screws sticking out.
- ◇ Uncovered light bulbs must be covered. This can be covered with 1” poultry wire for example or well out of the way of horse’s reach.
- ◇ Wiring that is not covered needs to be. A piece of drywall corner edge will work or 1”heavy bird wire.
- ◇ Is there room under the walls where a foot could get stuck? Fill it in.

Stall floor

- ◇ Should be dirt/screenings, mats or even cement.
- ◇ Bedding should be at least 3 inches of either straw/peat moss or shavings.

Water Source

- ◇ If buckets are used please refer to page of types of rings allowed. It is important that the buckets be removable in an emergency. Not connected with a rope or twine.
- ◇ Buckets should be clean and away from anything that the horse could get caught up on.
- ◇ Is there running water in the barn?
- ◇ Check for hooks, cross ties anything outside the stall that a horse could get caught up on.

Run in Sheds (Not a requirement, but if the farm has one)

- ◇ 3 sided minimum.
- ◇ At least 10 x 10 area for each horse.
- ◇ They should be at least 8 feet high.
- ◇ They should face south out of the wind.
- ◇ No protruding nails or screws. Run your hands over all the boards that are within reach.
- ◇ Bedding must be provided not straight cement.

- ◇ They should be clear of debris and manure.
- ◇ Remind that they need to be cleaned out often.
- ◇ They must not be wet.

If there are no Run in Sheds, is the horse able to get out of the wind? Are they brought in at night?

Feed

- ◇ Hay - no mold, low in dust. Pick it up and shake it. If a cloud of dust rises it is not suitable for horses. Neither is hay that has been rained upon.
- ◇ Also check outside round bales if they have them. Is it mouldy?
- ◇ Grain - What will they use? What is it stored in? Can the horse get to it?
- ◇ Bins must be horse proof. Old freezers work best.
- ◇ Salt and mineral blocks - are they supplied?

Size of Paddocks

- ◇ Grass paddocks preferred or provide hay year round.
- ◇ Dimensions suggested 60ft x100 feet a minimum.
- ◇ Paddocks must have water container that is clean. Remind to clean at least once a week.
- ◇ Pasture - should be 1 acre per horse if not hay should be provided at all times as per the Ministry of Agriculture guidelines.
- ◇ Check to see if anything the horses can get caught on.
- ◇ Group or individual turnout. - How will they introduce a new horse?

Type of fencing

- ◇ Electric/wire fencing should be at least 3 strand well marked on secured wooden posts.
- ◇ Metal posts can provide extra support in addition to wooden ones
- ◇ Temporary electric with two strands is allowed if surrounded by a proper fence to separate paddocks. It cannot be used as the only fence.
- ◇ Page wire is acceptable. Suggest board or electric strand on top. Use extended insulators on wooden posts for electric strand.
- ◇ No barb wire is allowed anywhere where a horse could touch it.
- ◇ Board fencing is solid and secure. It can't be wiggled. Lean on the fencing to test.

- ◇ Gates should have double latch or chain. No sharp edges/nails. Be secured properly to posts.

Condition of other animals

- ◇ Do other animals appear cared for?
- ◇ Are they fleshy? Do they have good weight on them?
- ◇ Do they need any vet/farrier care?
- ◇ Are they friendly?

Recommendations/Concerns/Necessary Changes

- ◇ Have the recommendations been discussed with applicant?