



## **NZTR Acknowledged Retainer Network – FAQ's**

Following the launch of the NZTR Acknowledged Retainer network, please find below a list of the most frequently asked questions and answers received so far relating to Acknowledged Retainers and the service they provide. These answers have been collated to assist all industry participants in better understanding how the network can be utilised to assist horses transitioning to a second career post racing.

### **Who are our Acknowledged Retainers?**

Acknowledged Retainers are selected based on their experience and track record in successfully assessing and placing horses into new homes and careers post racing. They are located throughout both Islands and come from a variety of sport horse and racing backgrounds. To find an Acknowledged Retainer near you, visit [LoveRacing.nz/AcknowledgedRetainers](https://www.loveracing.nz/AcknowledgedRetainers)

### **Do I still need to submit an SR24 form if I send my horse to an Acknowledged Retainer?**

Yes, rule 417 requires that a SR24 form must be submitted for every horse by their accountable person (trainer or owner) upon retirement. When consigning a horse to an Acknowledged Retainer, state the retirement location as being with that Retainer. When the horse is subsequently rehomed, the Retainer provides further traceability information directly to NZTR.

### **Are Acknowledged Retainers able to take on 'problem' horses?**

Acknowledged Retainers have all been selected based on their ability and experience in dealing with Thoroughbreds. However, unless by prior agreement, and with full disclosure of any potentially problematic or dangerous behaviour, Acknowledged Retainers should not be expected to provide the service of a horse breaker, pre-trainer, 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 to the Acknowledged Retainer's property?**

It is NZTR's expectation that the horses owners/ racing connections will cover the cost of transport to the Retainer's property. Acknowledged Retainers operate on extremely tight profit margins and each cost incurred is significant. In addition to the support provided to Acknowledged Retainers by the [1% welfare levy on stakes](#) money, covering this cost is extremely important in ensuring Acknowledged Retainers remain financially viable and hence able to service the industry.

### **What is my financial obligation to the horse whilst it's with the Acknowledged Retainer?**

Generally, 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, it is NZTR's expectation that all horses should be consigned to Acknowledged Retainers recently shod, in good body condition, and ready to start work if not already in work.

### **Am I able to stay in touch with my horse after it has been rehomed by the Acknowledged Retainer?**

Absolutely yes, providing the new owner of your horse is happy for this happen, most 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 a new career.

**If you have a question relating to Acknowledged Retainers which hasn't been addressed here, please contact [Alice.Riggins@nztr.co.nz](mailto:Alice.Riggins@nztr.co.nz)**

**The FAQs will be updated online to cover those questions to ensure stakeholders are fully informed.**

