



Mustang Heritage Foundation Humane Treatment Policy

Every Mustang and all animals shall, at all times, be treated humanely and with dignity, respect and compassion. Any participant using abusive or excessive training techniques or being inhumane to a Mustang in his/her care (determined excessive or abusive by a panel assigned by the Mustang Heritage Foundation and consisting of a panel of licensed equine veterinarian(s) and/or respected horse industry professionals) may be removed from the contest and/or all future contests and training programs. If a participant's horse enters the contest or if the trainer/participant at any time presents a horse with questionable training/care related injuries (determined excessive or abusive by a panel assigned by the Mustang Heritage Foundation and consisting of a panel of licensed equine veterinarian(s) and/or respected horse industry professionals) the participant may be removed from the contest and/or all future contests and training programs.

The following list includes but is not limited to examples of unacceptable behavior and training techniques:

- No horse appearing to be emaciated, drawn or injured may be exhibited.
- Use of or evidence of inhumane training techniques or methods such as striking horse with objects, excessive spurring and/or excessive jerking of reins.
- Any inhumane treatment that results in wounds.

Additionally, the Mustang Heritage Foundation promotes and encourages the following examples of sound, compassionate, and successful training techniques and Mustang handling methods:

- Horse and trainer exhibiting solid relationship based on respect and understanding
- A calm and willing partnership between horse and trainer, regardless of the obstacle or environmental challenge during competition or training phases
- Trainer maintains a credible level of dignity for the horse during all phases of training, competition, and repositioning if applicable.
- Trainers are expected to seek and employ methods of horsemanship in order to promote and encourage the positive relationship between horse and trainer.
- Training techniques should demonstrate a strong bond between horse and trainer