

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 or Burro 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 program and/or all future contests and training programs. If a participant's animal enters the contest or if the trainer/participant at any time presents an animal 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 mustang or burro appearing to be emaciated, drawn or injured may be exhibited.
- Use of or evidence of inhumane training techniques or methods such as striking animal 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 handling methods:

- Mustang/Burro and trainer exhibiting solid relationship based on respect and understanding
- A calm and willing partnership between Mustang/Burro and trainer, regardless of the obstacle or environmental challenge during competition or training phases
- Trainer maintains a credible level of dignity for the Mustang/Burro 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 Mustang/Burro and trainer.
- Training techniques should demonstrate a strong bond between Mustang/Burro and trainer

Through my signature below, I certify that I have read and understand the Mustang Heritage Foundation Humane Treatment policy, and agree to abide by these principles as a participant in Mustang Heritage Foundation events. I also understand that should a determination be made (as outlined above) that I have violated any part of this policy, I may lose the privilege of competing at MHF-sponsored events, and may also lose the privilege of any future adoptions of Mustangs or Burros.

Name of Trainer (please print)

Trainer's Signature

Date of Signature