



# DONKEY AND MULE PROTECTION TRUST NZ

Reg. Charity #1638328

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## FOSTER CARER'S AGREEMENT

**IMPORTANT ---- A SEPARATE FORM MUST BE COMPLETED FOR EACH DONKEY/MULE**

**FOSTER CARE FEE \$200**

DATE DONKEY/MULE WENT INTO FOSTER CARE: \_\_\_\_\_

*(Please write clearly in block letters.)*

Foster Carer's Name/s \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Post Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

### **Information about the Donkey/Mule going into foster care:**

Name of Donkey/Mule \_\_\_\_\_ D&MSNZ RegNo \_\_\_\_\_

Microchip No \_\_\_\_\_ Brands N/S \_\_\_\_\_ O/S \_\_\_\_\_

Colour \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_ Height \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

Description \_\_\_\_\_

Blemishes \_\_\_\_\_

**I/we** \_\_\_\_\_

Agree to take the donkey/mule named herein onto our property (as above) and become the Foster Carers on the terms and conditions of the Donkey and Mule Protection Trust NZ (The Trust) as previously discussed and printed overleaf.

I/we understand that we are totally responsible for the costs associated with keeping an equine.

I/we understand that while the donkey/mule is in my/our care we are totally responsible for any accidents which may occur, causing injury to ourselves, members of our family or visitors. I/we will not hold The Trust liable for any claims arising out of keeping any donkeys/mules in our care during the time the donkeys/mules reside with us. I/we have familiarized ourselves with the inherent nature of these animals and the dangers arising out of the mishandling of donkeys/mules.

I/we understand that the welfare of the donkey/mule is the prime concern of The Trust. We also understand that if for any reason we are unable to care for the donkey/mule as agreed, or are unable to provide for them in times of hardship i.e. financial, flood, drought etc that they must be returned to their rightful owner The Trust until our situation improves or our land and pastures recover and we can once again apply to have the donkey/mule back.

I/we further understand and agree that the donkey/mule taken into care will always remain the property of The Trust and cannot be moved from the above address without the approval of The Trust.

I/we fully understand and agree to the guidelines stated overleaf.

**Signature of Carer 1**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of Carer 2**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of Trust Rep**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

# DONKEY AND MULE PROTECTION TRUST NZ

## FOSTER CARERS' AGREEMENT DETAILS

FOSTER CARERS OF DONKEY AND MULE PROTECTION TRUST NZ (Trust) DONKEYS HAVE THE SAME RESPONSIBILITIES AND EXPENSES FOR THE DONKEYS CARE AND WELLBEING AS WOULD APPLY TO ANY DONKEYS THEY PURCHASED PRIVATELY.

- 1) First and foremost our main aim is to keep all Trust donkeys happy and healthy for the rest of their lives. The donkeys' needs and welfare are considered above all else at all times.
- 2) The Trust offers carers on-going advice to ensure the donkeys are cared for and maintained properly. WE ARE ALWAYS JUST A PHONE CALL AWAY.
- 3) Prior to donkeys leaving the Trust, prospective foster care homes are inspected by a Trust representative. If the property is suitable to keep donkeys/mules the application form is tabled at the next meeting to be considered by the Trust.
- 4) If suitable donkeys/mules are not immediately available, carers are placed on a CIW (Carers in Waiting) list and will be notified when donkeys/mules are available.
- 5) If suitable donkeys/mules are immediately available arrangements can be made for pick-up or delivery once the property is inspected and approved.
- 6) Depending on the experience of foster carers it may be necessary for some carers to attend donkey/mule handling instruction. If this is not possible, instructions and information may be given at the time of delivery.
- 7) **Brief Annual Reports:** Carers are expected to supply an annual update photo of each donkey in their care with a short report of that donkey's progress written on the back of their photo. *(It's not necessary to write volumes telling how wonderful your donkeys are – we already know!)*
- 8) Trust representative/s visit foster homes when asked to discuss any problems they may have with the donkeys, or difficulties the donkeys have with their new carers. Occasional visits by a representative may be arranged with prior notice given.
- 9) The Trust may be able to recommend a qualified equine dentist and/or farrier in your area. If we do not know of any professional people in that particular area, it is necessary for the prospective carer/s to seek out a dentist and farrier who are willing to work on donkeys/mules prior to taking delivery of an animal.
- 10) Transport services may be available from the Trust to the foster home if a carer cannot arrange this privately. The carer would be expected to cover costs of transport.
- 11) The donkeys/mules a carer receives always remain the property of the Trust but may remain on the carers' property for as long as they are welcome. Usually two (or more) donkeys/mules go together to approved applicants if there is no suitable companion animal already living at the carers' home. Donkeys/mules are social and herd animals and naturally feel secure and happy in companion pairs, (i.e. 2 jennies, 2 geldings or 1 jenny and 1 gelding – never a jack). Best friends must go together and must always remain together.
- 12) Unless otherwise arranged, the donkeys/mules you receive from the Trust will only have been taught **basic manners --- they are not trained for riding or driving**. Therefore donkeys/mules going into foster care **must not be ridden, driven or otherwise worked without the appropriate training and approval of the Trust**. Often the donkeys/mules have come from poor circumstances and are either not trained or may not be capable of being used for these purposes i.e. physical problems or previous mishandling.
- 13) Trust donkeys/mules living in foster homes cannot be relocated from the address/addresses entered into the agreement without consulting the Trust. A Carer's Agreement is not transferable to any other person or address under any circumstances.
- 14) Carers do not own or have any claim whatsoever to any Trust donkey/mule in their care, therefore do not have the right to give away, sell or relocate any Trust donkeys/mules in their possession.
- 15) If for whatever reason a donkey/mule in foster care proves unsuitable for the carer or the carer simply changes his/her mind about having the donkey/mule, the animal/s must be returned to the Trust.
- 16) If a foster home should turn out to be unsuitable or unsatisfactory for any reason, the Trust reserves the right to remove the donkey/mule – **no dispute will be entered into. The donkeys/mules always come first.**
- 17) If the carer/s have two Trust donkeys/mules and one dies, the carer/s must immediately inform the Trust so arrangements can be made to either deliver another companion donkey/mule or pick up the grieving animal.
- 18) It is important to learn as much as possible about caring for donkeys/mules. Owning and caring for any large animal is a big responsibility and costly and there is a lot to consider. The Trust offers help and advice to foster carers with donkey/mule management, understanding and handling. We advise carers to buy and read the book "Donkey Business 111" available from the Donkey & Mule Society of NZ Inc.
- 19) **TRUST DONKEYS ARE NEVER TO BE BRED FROM.** Jennies are never placed in a home where there is a resident jack/stallion. Trust donkeys are not suitable for breeding. Nevertheless, they make ideal and excellent, loving and useful pets.

It is with the understanding and agreement of the foregoing information that donkeys/mules are placed into foster care.

***The Trustees, volunteers and most of all the DONKEYS AND MULES thank you for caring.***