



## Akindale Return Policy

Akindale has a responsibility and dedication to every horse that comes through our Rehab/Retrain program as well as horses bred here at Akindale. Akindale will always provide assistance in either returning the horse to the program or networking to place the horse in a suitable home. If you are having issues with your adopted Thoroughbred and wish to explore your options for returning him/her, please read the following information.

**\*Be mindful that for every horse that returns to Akindale, a horse desperately needing to retire from the track gets turned away.\***

### Returning a horse

Horses can be returned to Akindale care; however this should **ONLY be a last resort** and for truly dire situations where all resources have been utilized. First, we want to try to help you troubleshoot any issues. Please contact our trainer Monique for professional advice to find a solution to your problem area. Second, we want to help you find the horse a new home from its current location. We understand that circumstances change and the horse may become unwanted or you may be unable to continue to provide or afford care. We encourage adopters to first do their part in helping find the horse a suitable home. Akindale will do its part by marketing the horse, screening potential adopters, and giving professional training advice. **Akindale is not meant to be a retirement facility, but rather a sanctuary for those not able to have a second career and a training facility to transition Thoroughbreds to their forever homes.**

If you are considering returning your horse please cite the main reason for which you are returning the horse and follow these steps:

### Lameness/Not Suitable for Chosen Discipline

1. Contact Akindale
2. Provide a mandatory diagnostic lameness vet exam and email report and any X-rays/Ultrasounds to [monique@akindale.org](mailto:monique@akindale.org)
3. Akindale may require that you provide vet-recommended treatment protocol prior to making a final decision to return the horse



4. If decision to return the horse to Akindale care has been made, complete the **Return Intake Form**

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Initial

### Behavior Issues

Akindale's horses are marketed as "transitioning" horses, meaning that they still require additional training after adoption and a consistent program.

1. Contact Akindale
2. Send video of behavior issue to Akindale's Head Trainer
3. Akindale may require that you put your horse in 30 days of training with a professional to see if the issue can be resolved prior to making the final decision to return the horse
4. If decision to return the horse to Akindale care has been made, complete a **Return Intake Form**

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Initial

### Financial Difficulties/Not A Good Fit/Change in Situation etc:

1. Contact Akindale at [monique@akindale.org](mailto:monique@akindale.org) or 203-788-5012
2. Try and find him/her an appropriate home, the horse will then be added to the incoming wait list. Also, we will attempt to contact approved applicants to re-adopt from its current location.
3. Akindale may add horse to our adoption website to help facilitate rehoming
4. If decision to return the horse to Akindale care has been made, complete the **Return Intake Form**

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Initial



\* Please be aware that it could be 4 to 6 weeks before a stall is available. Akindale has a set number of stalls and turnouts and the time frame for receiving a horse back into the program is dependent upon adoption rates, how quickly adopted horses are picked up, and the length of the incoming wait list.\*

\*Adopters are always responsible for the cost of transportation no matter the reason for return.\*

\*Horses are required to be return with the same type of shoeing that it left Akindale with. (Barefoot, front shoes, 4 shoes)

Agreement and Signature: \_\_\_\_\_