



Fig Tree Pocket Equestrian Club Inc

Agistment By-Laws

Effective December 2006

General Rules

1. Only rider members who have paid the prescribed membership, agistment, and all other fees may agist horses in the paddock.
2. Only geldings may be agisted in the paddock.
3. The maximum number of agistment places in the paddock shall be twenty (20) however the Management Committee shall have the right to vary this number at its discretion if it deems it appropriate.
4. Horses agisted in the paddock must be handled at least once a day, and twice a day if the Management Committee so instructs.
5. All agisted horses are required to be ridden or worked regularly unless special leave is given by the Management Committee. 'Regularly' is defined as at least 2-3 times per week, excluding holidays and periods of injury or illness.
6. FTPEC agistment may not be used for retirement or spelling. Once a horse has retired from work, or is deemed to have a long-term or permanent injury, it must be removed to make room for another horse from the waiting list.
7. Agisting Members will be required to sign an Agistment Agreement at the beginning of each calendar year which, together with these By-laws, will set out the terms and conditions under which agistment is granted. Failure to sign an agistment agreement may result in the rescinding of your agistment place.
8. Breaches of the Agistment Agreement or other circumstances which warrant the removal of a horse from the grounds shall be referred by the Agistment Manager to the Management Committee for a decision.
9. The directions of the Agistment Manager should be followed at all times, and any conflict between agisting parties must be taken to the Agistment Manager for mediation. The agistment manager's decision regarding resolution of a dispute is final. It may only be overruled by a majority consensus amongst the Management Committee.
10. At various times (including events, herd vaccination etc), all horses may need to be caught and confined by a specific time. It is your responsibility to have your own horse/s in the nominated area by the specified date and time. Any breach of this may result in a 'handling fee' if the committee is required to catch or move your horse as a result of your absence.

Selection Criteria

11. Agistment places shall be allocated to Members (to be known as Agisting Members) by the Management Committee, which shall have sole discretion to determine priorities for allocating spaces. Priority may be given to riders who display a high level of commitment to the sport, or have good references from their previous club. In cases where a prospective candidate is unknown to FTPEC, the committee will interview the candidate in an effort to determine suitability.
12. Horses may only be brought into the paddock following the Management Committee's approval of a written request for agistment.
13. At times when the demand for places exceeds the number of spaces available, FTPEC shall keep a register of applications for agistment, which shall form an official 'Waiting List'.
14. When a place becomes available, the Management Committee shall consider all applications on the waiting list, taking into account any circumstances that the Committee deems relevant. The Committee may refuse agistment to any applicant for any reason, especially if it believes it to be in the best interest of the existing herd.
15. An applicant for an agistment place shall be informed in writing by the Agistment Manager or other office bearer of the Club, of the outcome of their application.
16. If an agisted horse is sold to a member who does not have an agistment place, that member may be required to remove the horse and apply for a place in accordance with the provisions of by-laws 11-14.
17. If an agisted horse is leased to another member, the agistment place remains with the owner of the horse and does not go to the lessee.

Bringing in a Horse

18. Before entry to the paddock, horses must be treated, wormed and vaccinated against strangles and tetanus, and certificates to this effect must be presented if requested.
19. New horses must spend a minimum of four (4) days (96 hours) confined in either the yards or a holding paddock, the location to be determined by the Agistment Manager. Under no circumstances may horses be released directly into the paddocks before this time.
20. During the four-day period, other Agisting Members will be advised of the proposed date to release the new horse. The agistment manager must be given at least 48 hours prior notice of the exact release date and time so that the other agistees may be informed.
21. Owners of newly released horses must remain in the vicinity for a reasonable period in order to intervene and remove the horse in the event of trouble.
22. All new horses shall be on probation for three months, or such time as the Management Committee determines. During this period the horse's agistment may be rescinded by the Committee for any reason, especially those of safety to other horses or people.
23. Horses that re-enter the paddock after an absence of thirty days or more shall be treated as if they are new horses and their owners shall observe the provision of by-laws 19-21.
24. The Management Committee has the right to request the removal of horses that exhibit unacceptable behaviour towards other horses, agistees or any persons in the paddock.
25. The Management Committee has the power to require the removal of any horse at any time on reasonable notice. The Committee may direct that a horse be held in the yards or holding paddock pending its removal.
26. An Agisting Member who wishes to agist a newly purchased horse may do so with the permission of the Management Committee. Written application to bring in the new horse is still required in accordance with the provision of by-law 12.
27. A member who removes or sells an agisted horse from the paddock may, if actively looking for a new horse, hold their existing space for up to three (3) months by continuing to pay agistment fees. The Management Committee may extend this period at its discretion. If no suitable horse is found and other applicants are waiting, the Committee may reallocate the place.
28. Agistment fees are payable from the date the place is made available, and are paid per quarter in advance. Unpaid agistment fees may result in the loss of your horse's agistment place.
29. When an agistee leaves, the remaining amount of their agistment shall be refunded. The refund will be pro-rated to the number of days remaining for the paid quarter, minus any other monies owing to the club.

Yard & Paddock Rules

30. The Agistment Manager is delegated the authority and responsibility for day to day agistment on the grounds including management of the yards and horse care.
31. The yard area must be kept tidy. Rugs are at risk if left in the yard area. Members do so at their own risk. If rugs are left in the area they should be hung neatly on the fence. Buckets and feed bins are to be cleaned daily and kept in a neat and tidy manner. Belongings should not be left lying around in the general area.
32. No structural modifications to the yards may be made without first obtaining the consent of the committee. This includes removing rails between adjacent yards, or any other alterations.
33. Agisting Members may from time to time be required to contribute to the upkeep of the paddock or yards by way of a financial levy; the amount of such levy to be determined at a General Meeting of the club on the recommendation of the Management Committee.
34. All senior agistees, and parents of junior agistees, are expected to assist with paddock and yard maintenance.
35. Agistees may choose their own yards to use from those that are available. An agistee's yard must then be kept clean and maintained. The agistee is responsible for keeping in good order, and arranging repairs for, any damage caused by their horse.
36. From time to time the Agistment Manager will provide a list of duties to be undertaken each week by the agistees. This may include duties such as mowing, manure removal, or cleaning the water trough.
37. Whenever an event is taking place, all horses agisted in the paddock must, be moved to the designated containment area (specified by the committee), or confined to their yards.
38. Agistees are entitled to retain the use of their regular yard (without payment) during home-based events. They are not required to vacate their yard for external competitors.

Veterinary Care

39. Care of the horse is paramount. If the Agistment Manager believes an agistee displays a lack of care toward their horse, the matter must be rectified immediately. If the problem persists, the committee may issue a written warning.
40. All agisted horses are to be pasted at 3-monthly intervals, and vaccinated once a year (vaccination to coincide with one pasting). The day for pasting each quarter and the day and time for vaccinating will be advised by the Agistment Manager. Agistees will pay the costs of their worming paste and vaccination.
41. Care of the herd is everyone's responsibility. If a horse is found injured, every effort should be made to contact the owner as soon as possible. In the event that the injury is serious and the owner is uncontactable, a veterinary surgeon may be called to treat the injury, and the invoice passed to the owner.
42. If your horse suffers an injury or illness which requires it to be temporarily separated from the herd, you may isolate your horse in any unoccupied hospital yard. You should then notify the Agistment Manager of the injury and the expected recovery time. If the number of injured horses exceeds the number of available yards, the Agistment Manager should be contacted to arrange an equitable solution. The Agistment Manager may seek veterinary advice to assist in his/her evaluation of the situation.
43. If at any time your horse is diagnosed with a contagious illness of any kind, the Agistment Manager must immediately be notified. At the Agistment Manager's discretion, your horse may be isolated in a separate paddock during the infectious period.
44. Under No Circumstances is a horse ever to be placed in a yard/paddock where another horse is already convalescing. If you wish your horse to share a space with another injured horse, approval must first be obtained from the owner of the other horse, and then the Agistment Manager notified of the consensus.
45. In the interests of the health and safety of the herd, the agistee gives FTPEC the right to contact your vet to discuss details of any injuries or ailments pertaining to your agisted horse, as well as the prognosis or estimated recovery period from any such illness or injury.
46. Please Be Aware: It is reasonable to assume at any given time, that at least 2-3 horses in the herd may have a temporary condition requiring them to take medication prohibited according to the EFA's Equine Anti-Doping and Medication Control rules (EADMC). It is the rider's responsibility to avoid the risk of a positive swab from having their horse accidentally access another horse's medication. FTPEC recommends that agistees close their yard after feeding, to help prevent other horses ingesting prohibited medication via leftover food belonging to a sick horse.

Riders with Two Horses

47. Any rider member may agist only one horse in the paddock unless there are spare spaces, in which case the Management Committee may, at its sole discretion and upon conditions determined by the Committee, allow a member to agist more than one horse.
- a) The minimum prerequisite conditions for applying for a second horse are:
- i). the existing horse must be being ridden consistently 4-5 times per week, and
 - ii). the horse/rider combination must be receiving weekly tuition with a certified instructor, and
 - iii). the existing horse/rider combination must be competing regularly in EFA competitions.
- b) If a rider believes they meet the minimum requirements for owning a second horse, they must request permission from the Management Committee by following the same process required to bring in their original horse (refer to "Selection Criteria").
48. Agisting members who are approved to have more than one horse in the paddock, will be required to forego the place of one of their horses if the Management Committee determines that the following ongoing conditions are not met:
- i). both horses must be ridden regularly as defined in agistment by-law 5, and
 - ii). the rider must receive regular tuition, on both horses, from a certified instructor, and
 - iii). at least one of the two horses must be involved in regular EFA competition.
49. For Agistment Members, working bees are calculated PER AGISTED HORSE as outlined in the Membership By-Laws. This means agistees with 2 horses are required to work twice the number of hours, or pay twice the exemption levy (or a combination of both).
50. Be aware that all general agistment duties are calculated on a per-horse basis (e.g. mowing, manure removal etc).
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