



**Who we are:** The TAA is a 501 (c)(3) tax-exempt non-profit organization whose goal is to help retired Thoroughbreds.

**Mission:** The TAA serves as an accrediting body for aftercare facilities that care for Thoroughbreds following the conclusion of their careers and a fund-raising body to support these approved facilities.

**What we do:** The goal of the TAA is to unite stakeholders from the Thoroughbred industry and establish a broad-based automatic funding mechanism at every touch point in a Thoroughbred's life. This includes, but should not be limited to stallion owners; breeder; sales participants; owners; trainers; jockeys; race tracks; service providers including veterinarians and horse shoers; and, even racing fans. Anyone who benefits from the horse should contribute.

**Learn more about TAA:** [www.thoroughbredaftercare.org](http://www.thoroughbredaftercare.org)

**Accreditation Process:** The accreditation process is based on a Code of Standards, which covers five basic areas: Facility Operations; Education; Horse Healthcare Management; Facility Standards and Services; and, Adoption Policies and Protocols. Organizations wishing to be accredited complete an application geared toward demonstrating that the minimum standards are met. A site inspection, with a facility inspector and a licensed veterinarian is conducted to ensure that what a facility says it is doing is actually taking place in practice. Finally, the facility is graded and those meeting substantially all of the standards will be awarded a two-year accreditation. TAA will conduct random inspections to ensure ongoing compliance with the standards.

**Fund-Raising:** In October, 2012, TAA announced its initial fund-raising support. Thirteen stallion farms in Kentucky came on board with commitments of the equivalent of 25% of one advertised stallion fee for each of their stallions; The Jockey Club announced their new fee structure with the increase in fees being earmarked for TAA; the four major sales companies, Keeneland, Fasig-Tipton, OBS, and Barretts will enable buyers and consignors to automatically contribute .05% of their respective purchases or gross sales directly to TAA. The sales companies will also contribute an additional .05%. At Breeders' Cup, we launched a fan participation program, where fans at Santa Anita, at simulcast outlets, or at home could text pledges to TAA – which allowed for a tremendous amount of publicity of the goals of TAA with the racing public.

**Next Steps:** Representatives of TAA will continually meet with other industry stakeholders to build on momentum from initial funding. The accreditation program will be rolled out to all organizations wishing to go through the process.

**Keys to Success:** The TAA cannot be successful without complete industry buy-in. All aspects of the industry must support this endeavor financially – it is everyone's responsibility and no individual group should carry too much of the burden. Existing organizations must also continue to be active and be supported by the industry. Many programs out there are doing a great job addressing the aftercare issue and must not be supplanted. Administrative costs for TAA must be kept to a bare minimum, which will be accomplished through utilizing existing industry resources in administrative and managerial roles. Finally, we must all work toward increasing the demand for the Thoroughbred in second careers.

**TAA Board of Directors and Staff:**

Jack Wolf – Starlight Racing, President	Madeline Auerbach – CARMA, Vice President	Mike Ziegler – Executive Director
Diana Baker	Jimmy Bell – Darley	Craig Bernick – Glen Hill Farm
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Reiley McDonald – Eaton Sales	Mike Meuser – Miller, Marks & Griffin	Sharyn Neble
Bryan Sullivan – Let's Go Racing	Bill Thomason – Keeneland Association	Rick Violette – NYTHA

If you wish additional information, please contact TAA at (859) 224-2756