Equine Behaviour Affiliation

Animal Welfare Policy V1.0

Checked 23/12/24. Review date 23/12/25.

1. **SCOPE**

This policy is designed to ensure that the Equine Behaviour Affiliation complies with its obligations under relevant legislation, including The Animal Welfare Act 2006, Animal Health and Welfare (Scotland) Act 2006, Welfare of Animal Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 and Republic of Ireland Animal Health and Welfare Act 2013.

**2. RESPONSIBILITIES**

All those working on behalf of the Equine Behaviour Affiliation on a voluntary or paid basis, and all Equine Behaviour Affiliation Registered Equine Psychology Specialists are responsible for promoting awareness of this policy and for monitoring its effectiveness and to ensure everyone including learners understand their responsibilities and will familiarise themselves with the Animal Welfare Code of practice.

**3. OBJECTIVES**

The main focus of the Equine Behaviour Affiliation’s work and training is to improve both mental and physical well-being for horses. The contents of the Applied Equine Psychology course evidence this.

Students are required to continually assess equine well-being throughout their coursework and examinations.

**4. COMMITMENT**

The Equine Behaviour Affiliation is committed to ensuring that when any training or assessment is taking place, or subsequent or post this activity, the health and welfare of equines has been given top priority. All equines must be treated with compassion and respect and must not be mistreated or any unnecessary force used. As this is the focus of the course, essentially learning how to treat equines with empathy and respect, and how to integrate this with effective management and training, great care is taken that the students or instructors are not put in positions where any mistreatment might occur.

**5. REPORTING**

The Equine Behaviour Affiliation review the effectiveness of this policy by ensuing a risk assessment is carried out pre and post any training or assessment activity to ensure learners, staff or associates formally report any instances that may impact animal health and welfare or the environment.

This policy is reviewed regularly and updated annually or as and when required.