

Black Hawk Farm

Buyer Checklist

This checklist is provided by Black Hawk Farm Limited to help buyers of horses better ensure a smooth and honest purchase. This checklist is based on Black Hawk Farm's experience and we are happy to explain more about anything here. This checklist may not be used in a commercial manner. Please feel free to get in touch at any time if you have any questions.

When Considering Horses

Do I have the price components in writing? You should have in writing the price of the horse, whether this price includes any sales tax, whether any sales tax is relevant when exporting and importing the horse, the amount of commission if applicable, and any import tax or duty. If you're using a broker/agent they should supply all this information to you. Ensure you also have in writing the period the price of the horse is valid for.

Am I confident I can source the best horses myself and complete the purchase without mishap? Sourcing a suitable horse can be time consuming and when you find a good horse the competition for purchasing it can get intense. Appreciate that you may have to put in more time than you anticipate at the outset. When you do find what seems to be a good horse make sure you carry out due diligence on the horse and the seller and if involved, the agent/broker (ensure you have written terms of engagement if you're involving a broker/agent). You are welcome to contact Black Hawk Farm for advice at no cost.

Have I been supplied all the information I need to know? You should ask for and receive ownership history, vetting and welfare history (including pregnancies and foalings), competition history, and details of any vices or idiosyncrasies. If you are uncomfortable about any gaps in information then follow up on these. If you are using a broker/agent then require the broker/agent to follow up to your satisfaction.

Have I had the horse sufficiently examined by a veterinarian? Vetting a horse provides information that contributes to your decision to invest in a particular horse. Modern imaging technology identifies more conditions than only a few years ago and it is important to understand whether any identified conditions are significant for the use you intend for the horse. Always ask the seller or agent/broker for all vetting and welfare history of a horse prior to a decision to purchase - a seller is obligated by New Zealand law to provide all information they are aware of that might influence your decision to purchase.

Have I had the opportunity to assess the horse thoroughly and to my satisfaction? Only you will know if any horse is right for you and you must make and take the time to assess any horse to your own satisfaction. Do not allow yourself to be rushed or be disallowed from riding the horse as you want.

When Completing a Purchase

Is there a Sale and Purchase Agreement? Ensure you obtain a signed Sale and Purchase Agreement and that this states any particular conditions regarding your purchase of the horse.

Am I clear regarding liability of the horse throughout the sale process? Ensure you and the seller clearly understand who is responsible for any horse at all points in time.

Am I comfortable that the purchase of the horse is proceeding honestly? If you have enlisted a broker/agent and they are handling the transaction then consider requiring proof from the seller and broker/agent of the funds paid to all parties.

Am I clear on the delivery details of the horse, particularly if it is being exported/imported? If you are not picking up the horse yourself then you'll need to arrange road and possibly air transport for the horse. Use only reputable transporters in both cases. Feel free to contact Black Hawk Farm at no cost for advice on this front.