

The North American Pony/Trainer Contest is a celebration of a Pony and Trainer or a single Pony or a single Trainer and their enthusiasm in the vast world of pony play. The winner(s) of this contest will go forth to share their knowledge and love of pony play through teaching and mentoring those within the leather, kink and fetish communities.

**The Horse totem:**

*In understanding the power of the Horse, you may want to strive for a balanced medicine shield. True power is wisdom found in remembering your total journey. Wisdom comes from remembering pathways you have walked in another person's moccasins. Compassion, caring, teaching, loving, and sharing your gifts, talents and abilities are the gateways to power.*

This is a preview of your NAPT titleholder contract with NAPT Leather Title, Equus IPPE, and subMissAnn Productions, LLC. It will cover the basic requirements of the titleholder year. Be sure to review this before the weekend. You will have an opportunity to meet with the Producer and key staff on Friday at the start of the contest. At this meeting, all contestants will be required to sign this contract (or a revised version of it) as all contestants are potential brand ambassadors and their visibility in the community reflects on the NAPT Leather Title, Equus IPPE, and subMissAnn Productions, LLC. Those who become the titleholders will, of course, take on a larger role as brand ambassadors and begin their title year immediately upon selection.

Our goal is to provide you with the tools to make your year successful. This title year is about your goals and vision for the year. Our expectations are that you have an amazing ride doing it your way with our support. As the title holder, your job for the year is to represent the North American Pony/Trainer Leather Title, and Equus International Pony Play Event as our brand ambassador. You are the face of the event and everyone you meet will form an opinion of not just you but of the NAPT and Equus organization. Please remember to be professional to those you meet along the way and encourage their interest in pony play.

We hope that this is just the start of long lasting relationships, as you move through your title year and then on to an alumnus with the NAPT organization. We aim to have these relationships be based on mutual respect, courtesy, honesty and cooperation. Thank you for taking the leap and we look forward to working with you, both as a contestant, and potentially during your title year and beyond!

## **Contract of Agreement to Represent NAPT/Equus IPPE**

This is a Contract between \_\_\_\_\_ (Contestant)  
And North American Pony/Trainer Leather title Equus IPPE, subMissAnn Productions,  
LLC. (Producer)

### **Definitions:**

- “You” or “Titleholder”, in any form, shall refer to the Contestant.
- NAPT, EQUUS, Equus IPPE, subMisAnn Productions, LLC, producer shall refer to the Producer.

This contract outlines the expectations for the Contestant, should they be selected as Titleholder, as well as the responsibilities and duties of the Producer in supporting the Contestant.

### **Event Weekend Post Contest**

#### **Saturday night:**

Immediately after the announcement of titleholder, everyone will need to remain on stage for a series of photos. This will include pictures of the new titleholders with the rest of the contestant class, The Judges, the NAPT Producer(s), and then finally the NAPT alumni in attendance. There will be a receiving line where current titleholders and many attendees will come up on stage to congratulate the new titleholders and introduce themselves. New titleholders should plan on spending about 20 to 30 minutes on stage and are encouraged to have their team and supporters get photos as well.

There may be people who give you business cards and invitations on stage. We suggest you just take the card and let them know you will talk with them in the next few days and not say yes to any events on the stage. There may be media who want to interview you and it is up to you if you would like to talk to them in depth at this time.

After you finish on stage, there is dancing in the main room and you are encouraged to join in with the celebration!

#### **Sunday:**

- 9:00am – Sunday Brunch, Presentations, and Carting

Your first duty as North American Pony/Trainer is to serve your Pony community. Check with the Event Coordinator to see what is needed and wanted for Sunday Brunch, Presentations, and Carting. Brunch will be buffet style. You should plan on greeting and serving the main dishes to everyone in line. In years we have a Tea, NAPT Alumni will serve at minimum on pot of Tea, as once you are in service to the Pony community, your heart is always in service to the Pony community.

- After Carting – Meet with the Producer and key staff to discuss your duties, social media accounts, review historian archive requirements, overview financial information

and travel fund processes, and get to know each other. It will be held in the producer's home (or designated location) and you can bring your partner(s) and/or handler(s) to this meeting so you have more sets of eyes & ears!

### **2-Week Follow-up:**

Within 2 weeks of the contest, there will be two (2) one hour video calls with the Producer and key staff. At this time we will review travel plans, your proposed budget, and provide a forum to ask any questions that have come up.

### **Primary Responsibilities:**

As ambassadors of North American Pony/Trainer and Equus International Pony Play Event your primary responsibility during your title year is to promote NAPT participation, Equus IPPE attendance, and pony play in general. We encourage you to have fun, meet a lot of people, and invite them to join in.

### **Mantle/Sash:**

The Mantle and Sash are legacy items that are entrusted to your care during your year as titleholders. These are powerful symbols of your service to your community and should be handled with the utmost respect, honor, and reverence. At the end of your title-year they are returned to EQUUS and passed on to the next titleholders but will carry your spirit with them. Imbue them with positive energy and good spirit whilst they are in your care.

### **Presentations and Workshops:**

As the North American Pony/Trainer titleholder, you agree to give a minimum of three (3) PRESENTATIONS OR WORKSHOPS during the course of the year. These classes can be at Fetish, Kink or Leather events. ONE must be at a Leather event that is at a regional or international level. You are encouraged to make as many official appearances as possible, both in your own home town/region, within your country and internationally. For purposes of the contract, to fulfill your title year requirements you are only required to present the minimum of 3.

### **Attending Events:**

As the North American Pony/Trainer titleholder, be mindful that you are representing NAPT and Equus IPPE at **any** fetish/kink/leather event you attend during your titleholder year. Have fun and enjoy the event but plan to attend the opening ceremonies, keynote speech, the closing ceremonies, and any parade of colors – wearing your sash/mantle at those times. Also plan to formally introduce yourselves to the event producers and/or coordinators and offer to be of assistance, even if it's an event you've paid for.

### **Travel:**

During the first two weeks of your title year, you should prepare a list of your proposed travel. Once you identify your travel schedule, the Executive Producer of NAPT can offer assistance in the planning and/or execution of your plans or connecting you with

Producers at events. Please see the section under Money Matters regarding the Travel Fund.

**Passports:**

As international titleholders, you must possess or obtain a valid passport from your country of residence. Costs associated with obtaining a new passport, if necessary, may be documented as a valid travel fund expense.

**Post Title Year**

At the end of your titleholder year, you are required to return to North American Pony/Trainer Contest and EQUUS International Pony Play Event. You should plan to arrive early enough and stay late enough to assist with set-up and take-down. Your duties during the event will be a co-Master of Ceremony, announcing all activities, keeping positive energy flowing, making all attendees welcome, and assisting the Producer and Event Wrangler as needed. After successfully completing your title year and step-down, you will join the ranks of the alumni and should plan to serve at least one pot of tea on the years we have Sunday Tea or assisting with handing out lunches in the Park or getting drinks for folks during Brunch at the hotel.

**Money Matters**

**Travel Fund**

There is a minimum travel fund of \$2000.00 for North American Pony/Trainer. These funds are not likely to be sufficient to cover all expenses related to your travel and you are encouraged to supplement your travel fund through fundraising activities and/or your own resources.

Major expenses such as registrations, hotels, and transportation can be REIMBURSED through the travel fund when properly documented. Other title related expenses such as business card printing or updating or acquiring a passport can also be reimbursed but will reduce the funds available for travel. Food expenses and incidentals during an event (such as raffle tickets and personal purchases) will not be reimbursed. The goal is to first cover the 3 mandatory events and your return to EQUUS. Any other traveling that represents the title during the year will be supported as much as possible. Be sure to talk with the Executive Producer of NAPT regarding any additional events and what can be covered.

**Reimbursement:**

Receipts are required for any reimbursement. Please save your receipts. Receipts may be submitted either by mail or email attachment and should be clearly marked as to what they are for and what event they relate to.

The mailing address is:  
subMissAnn Productions, LLC  
P.O. Box 2282,  
Toluca Lake, CA 91610.

The email address is: [EquusIPPE@gmail.com](mailto:EquusIPPE@gmail.com)  
(receipts should be either scans or photos saved as an image file – jpg, png, pdf).

## **Budget & Expense Reports**

During the first two weeks after being announced as the titleholder you should prepare a budget outlining the events you hope to participate in, and the expected expenses related to that travel, as well as any fund-raising or sponsorships you are seeking.

Expense reports are due on a quarterly basis by the end of the following months: October 2021, January 2022, April 2022, and July 2022. You may also submit monthly expense reports if you prefer. You may request reimbursements up to once a month. These payments will be made by check or electronic payment within 30 days to the payment account specified when you submitted your budget. Advances are possible on a case-by-case basis with follow up receipts required within three weeks after the expenditure. Failure to provide receipts will freeze the travel fund until the expense has been adequately documented.

Your expenses for your title run at the EQUUS International Pony Play Event/North American Pony/Trainer Leather Title Contest weekend are not reimbursable.

## **EQUUS Fundraising for NAPT**

The monies collected at EQUUS during The Raffle and Auction Basket are designated to the NAPT travel fund.

## **Fundraising during the Title Year**

Titleholders are encouraged to plan, host, and support or attend fund-raisers for other groups or charities during the year and visibly support Pony Play and community work. Please email [EquusIPPE@gmail.com](mailto:EquusIPPE@gmail.com) when you do one of these events with the event logo, a brief blog on the event that includes what your role will be and and/or the web link for the event so it can be posted on the NAPT website:

<http://www.northamericanponytrainercontest.com/>

Additionally, titleholders are encouraged to solicit donations and plan fund-raisers for their travel fund as well. Being creative on this is vital. Within 14 days of a fund-raising event that benefits you, send a financial report and include the funds in your next quarterly report. This aids the North American Pony/Trainer Leather Title Contest in tracking the total amount raised during your title year.

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## **Public Relations**

### **Publicity:**

By running for the NAPT title, you are giving NAPT, Equus IPPE, subMissAnn Productions, LLC full rights to use your name and image for promotional purposes including print and web publication. Additionally:

- Your bio and winner picture will be posted on the <http://www.northamericanponytrainercontest.com/> website. Please keep it updated and current
- You will create the following digital and social media contacts (if not already created) and monitor them at least three times per week:
  - a direct email address (NAPT2022@gmail.com and NAP2022@gmail.com)
  - Facebook fan page
  - Twitter account
  - Instagram account
  - Fetlife personal page
- Your travel calendar of events will be posted when you are representing your title.
- If you are asked to submit an article or do an interview, be sure to ask the media contact to let you review the piece before they are published. A copy should be sent to [EquusIPPE@gmail.com](mailto:EquusIPPE@gmail.com) BEFORE publication for fact checking.

### **Social Media:**

Social media is an important component in promoting NAPT/Equus IPPE and pony play as well as connecting with people interested in pony play. As a titleholder an active social media presence is expected. Here are some guidelines for maintaining an active presence on social media. If you have questions, contact [EquusIPPE@gmail.com](mailto:EquusIPPE@gmail.com):

- Emails should be checked daily and all electronic inquiries must be answered or referred within 48 hours.
- New tweets and updates to Facebook containing positive NAPT/Equus IPPE content should be sent a minimum of twice each week.
- All NAPT/Equus IPPE marketing materials sent to you should be posted and retweeted.
- You must maintain a blog, updated monthly, about your NAPT experience throughout your title year which can include events attended, classes taught, contests attended or judged, and current issues as they relate to the leather community.

### **Promotion:**

People will come to the NAPT/Equus IPPE Weekend after meeting you on the road so, as titleholders, you are asked to seize every opportunity to promote attendance,

participation, and donations to the event. The following tools are useful during your title year:

- Business cards are a must and are a reimbursable expense
- At each event, coordinate with the organizers ahead of time for mic time. Use your few minutes to talk about your year and invite guests to attend NAPT/Equus IPPE (you'll get the event dates and locations as soon as they're finalized). Encourage people to visit the website at: <http://www.equusippe.com/>
- Run cards will be provided to distribute at events, businesses and clubs during your travel
- Granting interviews with the press (remember to request the right to review before publication)
- Blogging about your travels and thoughts (be sure to record your travel and the people you have connected with so you have a log for a step down speech)
- Offer to teach, judge, MC or support events in whatever way you are comfortable
- Be a role model and talk to all the titleholders or leaders in the community about the inclusion of Ponies and Trainers
- Support local and regional leather and bootblack contests and encourage titleholders and producers to include a Pony/Trainer component if they do not have one already.
- Encourage eligible participants to run for NAPT by answering their questions and putting them in touch with our contestant coordinator.
- Be creative and brainstorm ways to spread the word and the joys of pony play.

## **Personal Support & Communication**

### **Toughing it Out:**

You aren't alone out there and you have support. Sometimes it gets overwhelming being in the public eye and it's easy to get burnt out. Ann Noble, Raven Darknights, and NAPT alumni are available to you during your title year. One of the highest values of NAPT is transparency and maintaining ongoing open lines of communication. If you reach a point where you're having a hard time, please reach out and express your concerns or worries. It's much better to talk about potential issues or when something has happened than to allow things to fester. It is our highest goal to support you as titleholders but we aren't mind-readers and need you to express your perceptions and ideas so we can brainstorm solutions together. We want to know how you are doing and how we can support you if need be so don't hesitate to reach out. Also be sure to build a personal support team that can include other titleholders, local groups or event producers that you trust and, of course, your personal circle of family and friends.

### **Group Dynamics:**

As you travel you become involved with the people you meet. Some communities may have active and stable pony groups, others may have less stable groups. In some places people all get along while, in others, there's friction. Be prepared to be thoughtful in your responses to the various communities you encounter. Because you are titleholders, people may ask for your opinions or suggestions. Try not to get caught up

in the politics of a community or try to solve their problems. Often, just listening is a great support and let's people work out their own resolutions.

**Rumors:**

From time to time there will be rumors. If someone asks you about a rumor that affects NAPT or EQUUS, please bring it to our attention. We can fact check and let you know what's going on so you can make an informed comment if a comment is needed. If you don't know an answer, it's always appropriate to say that you'll check on it and get back to them.

**Communication:**

Regular email and telephone calls can keep everyone up to date. A weekly email is the minimum required. Just let us know how you're doing, if there's anything you need, what you found easy or hard, etc. If something out of the ordinary comes up or if there's an incident that involves you, please don't wait for your weekly email, contact us as soon as possible so we know what's going on and can support you.

**General Conduct**

**Represent:**

As brand ambassadors, you may be the only point of reference for someone on what NAPT/Equus IPPE is about and informs their opinion of the entire event. Having fun, meeting your obligations, being on time, conducting yourself professionally and showing appreciation and courtesy for your hosts all build that reputation. The more people you meet, the more people will get to know you, so try to greet as many as you can at an event. You are the one they have invited as NAPT. Share your opinions and ideas with people but be sure to let them know when those are your opinions and may or may not be the opinions of the NAPT/EQUUS organization. Creating a positive image of the NAPT/EQUUS brand, speaking up and expressing your thoughts politely, graciously and constructively will build the opportunity for the next year titleholders to return to the event and encourage the community to attend the next NAPT/EQUUS Weekend.

**Thank-you:**

Titleholders will receive a great deal of support from the leather community during their title year. A supply of thank you notes will be provided. Try to use travel time to send a handwritten note, right after the weekend, to producers, titleholders, hosts who shared their homes or meals, key event staff, sponsors or donors (stamps can be a reimbursable expense).

**Communication with Events:**

Your goal is to have an amazing time this year and help build the future of NAPT/Equus IPPE. If extenuating circumstances come up that will prevent you from following through on an obligation, inform all relevant event contacts promptly and then let the NAPT Executive Producer know as well. Events expect you to be on time, ready to work and be a part of their program. Be sure to talk out all the details with the producers or your contact before the event and abide by any/all guidelines, rules or requirements of any

event you attend. When attending an event, find out if there are current titleholder introductions, a Flag Presentation, or any element that you can promote NAPT/ Equus IPPE at that event.

**Sobriety:**

Please avoid being publically intoxicated or using drugs in public as well as being photographed or videoed with a drink or drugs in your hand. Please refrain from promoting altering substances of any type during your tenure as titleholders.

**Personal Gain:**

Prior approval from NAPT/Equus IPPE, subMissAnn Productions, LLC is required before any titleholder may use their title for personal gain. This includes the use of your title in advertising for promoting your personal business, pornography appearances, sex work and professional domination/submission work.

**Removal of Title**

If a titleholder fails to perform her/his duties as specified, or is found to be in violation of any clause in this contract, or is arrested during their title year, NAPT reserves the right to remove said person from the title. Keeping us up to date and communicating can reduce many of these concerns. If the above occur, circumstances will be evaluated by the Executive Producer to determine if the situation warrants removing the title. If a titleholder is removed from their position, NAPT may ask the first runner up to serve in their place as titleholder for the balance of the title year. The removed titleholder must return all sashes, vest patches, medallions and trophies pertaining to the revoked title immediately and forfeits any prizes not already redeemed. The removed titleholder will not be considered as having stepped down and will not be accorded the rights and benefits of an alumni titleholder.

**Resignation**

A title year can be difficult and if a titleholder determines that, due to health, change of life situations or other factors, they cannot meet all the obligations, they should contact the Executive Producer as soon as possible. If no resolution can be found, the titleholder will send a letter of resignation to the NAPT/Equus IPPE organizations. Upon acceptance of the resignation and jointly planning for release of the news, NAPT/Equus IPPE may ask the first runner up to serve in their place as titleholder for the balance of the title year. The resigning titleholder must return all sashes, vest patch, medallions and trophies pertaining to the title immediately and return any prizes not already redeemed. The resigning titleholder, if in good stead and upon evaluation by the NAPT organizations, may be considered as having stepped down and be accorded the rights and benefits of an alumni titleholder.

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**Contract**

This contract is binding on all parties and if any clause is found to be unenforceable the remainder of the contract will remain in effect.

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Date

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NAPT Contestant Legal Name (Print)

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NAPT Contestant Signature

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Date

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Ann Noble

**Amendments/Questions**

Use this space and additional pages to discuss amendments and note questions you want to discuss during the Producer Meeting.