

HSFGR - Porch Packet

HSFGR Best Practices

Responsible Rehoming-Contact Breeder First

A one-page guide for members, buyers & families

Our culture goal: In HSFGR, we encourage a “Contact Breeder First” approach whenever a goat needs to change homes. It protects the goat, honors the value of genetics, and supports responsible placement in our community.

Responsible Rehoming - Contact Breeder First For members, buyers & families

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Why This Matters

- Genetics are not replaceable. A goat’s bloodlines represent years of selection, record-keeping, and investment-often by multiple breeders.
- Selling a goat does not mean the breeder wanted to let them go. Many breeders sell to manage herd size, rotate breeding plans, or place animals where they can thrive - not because the goat is “disposable.”
- Fast rehoming without contacting the breeder can break valuable lines, increase the risk of backyard

If You Can't Keep a Goat- best practice steps

1) Contact the breeder first.

- Most responsible breeders would rather help than see a goat placed blindly. Give the breeder a fair chance to buy back, take back, or assist with placement. Never be afraid to contact the breeder for any reason, they should be your first go-to.

2) Share the basics.

- Registered name/ID, age, health notes, reason for rehoming, and your timeline.

3) Agree on transport and timing.

- Clarify who pays transport and how quickly a decision needs to be made.

4) If the breeder declines, rehome responsibly.

- Vet the home, confirm fencing and care, and provide accurate information. Send the breeder the new owner’s contact information as a courtesy. (Many breeders *want* to know where their goats are.)

Sales Contracts - HSFGR Encouraged - Breeders

A “*Contact Breeder First*” clause (*Return-to-Breeder / Right of First Refusal*).

1. A clear “no sale barn / no dealer resale / no slaughter pipeline” agreement.
2. Accurate transfers of registration and owner records (so registry data stays updated & truthful).
3. Education and mentorship, ask questions early rather than rehoming in a hurry.

Quick Message You Can Send Your Breeder

“Hi [Breeder Name], I wanted to reach out first as a courtesy. I’m considering rehoming [Goat Name / Reg #] because [brief reason]. Are you interested in taking them back or helping place them? My ideal timeline is [date]. I’m happy to share health notes and discuss transport.”

HSFGR note: This guide supports respectful, responsible placement practices. It is informational and does not replace state laws, venue rules, or veterinary guidance.