A horse was caveat emptor - let the buyer beware. Nowadays, when buying a horse, purchasers generally ask for more certainty from a seller, than simply that the horse is a horse. A purchaser wants to be certain that the horse is sound, injury-free and fit for the purpose for which it is being purchased. Because purchasers ask for more information, sellers will usually offer that information, sometimes without thinking about whether the representations they are making to the purchaser are accurate and the impact those representations may have.

Vet checks are a fantastic way to achieve peace of mind in relation to the purchase or sale of a horse, regardless of the representations that are made. A vet check will either support the representations that have been made in relation to the horse or contradict them. Another alternative is that health issues may be discovered which were not previously known to the owner of the horse. Either way, the person who has requested the vet check will receive an independent opinion on the health of the horse, which will assist the purchaser in making a fully informed choice about whether to proceed with the purchase.

Final word

Ultimately, it is a personal choice as to whether or not a vet check is warranted and worth the expense. Perhaps obtaining a vet check should be viewed as a potential cost saving, instead of an expense. A vet check will be considered a wise investment in the event that it is discovered that there is something wrong with the horse prior to its purchase.

Speak with your vet if you would like further information about the vet check process. Seek independent legal advice if you would like more information about misleading and deceptive conduct, or remedies available to you in relation to a horse which was not fit for purpose, or in relation to the recovery of a purchase price.

References


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