

5696 Entiat River Rd. • Entiat, Washington 98822 • 1-800-497-3912

## STATEMENT FROM DONKEY SPORTS, INC.

The treatment of the donkeys during the donkey basketball game is of utmost concern to Donkey Sports, Inc. We insist on our employee be the referee to insure that the donkeys are treated humanely and with respect. **Players who do not comply with our standards of treatment are replaced.** Some of the treatment standards are: weight limits, no hitting or kicking of donkeys, and no pulling of donkey ears, hair or tails.

There are some animal rights groups that would like to prevent human use of all animals. To attain this goal, they often put out misinformation concerning donkey basketball.

- 1. Donkeys are not given anything to keep them from going to the bathroom on the floor. Often the donkeys will go on the floor. We just stop the game, clean it up and then continue with the game.
- 2. We do not withhold feed from the donkeys before the game. The donkeys travel to games in a large horse trailer. There is always feed in front of them while in the trailer.
- 3. Water is not withheld from the donkeys. Although the donkeys have no water in the horse trailer, they are always given water right after the game.
- 4. There are claims that donkey basketball is an illegal activity. This is not true to our knowledge. In fact, we have used donkey basketball for fundraisers for some humane society groups, police departments, fire departments, schools, chambers of commerce and other city projects.
- 5. We do not use electrical cattle prods on the donkeys in donkey basketball.

Donkey Sports, Inc. has been owned by Bruce and Sandy Wick since 1980. During that time, we have never had a donkey injured in the game or become sick from traveling. When a donkey becomes a good player, they have a long career in donkey basketball. They don't breakdown at a young age or become sour on playing.

It is our hope that donkey basketball is viewed as a wholesome family event, giving young spectators a chance to see and pet real donkeys. It also gives the players the unique opportunity to ride a donkey. Through the many years, donkey basketball has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for good causes. We hope potential sponsors are not discouraged from using donkey basketball as a fundraiser. Animal rights groups are a small, misinformed segment of society and should not be allowed to deprive the rest of the community from this fun event.

Thank you for the opportunity to bring donkey basketball to your town.

Sincerely,

Bruce Wick, President of Donkey Sports, Inc.