

CODE OF CONDUCT STANDARDS

Approved by National Board 5-27-95

I. Purpose.

This Code of Conduct Standards is promulgated as an aid to the preservation of the integrity of the Tennessee Walking Horse, the records of the Association, its members, and any other "person" or "persons" who enjoys its benefits and privileges. All Persons are expected to abide by the following standards.

II. Standards.

1. All Persons and specifically members, officers, and directors of the Association shall conduct themselves as ladies and gentlemen in all meetings and dealings with the Association, with any other Person or in any matter in which the Association has an interest.

2. In an effort to demonstrate respect for the history and presence of the Tennessee Walking Horse Breed, all Persons shall support the Association Position Statement on Animal Welfare which states:

"The TWHBEA actively protects and promotes the welfare of the Tennessee Walking Horse. To this end the TWHBEA is committed to the following:

-Ensuring that the overall and ongoing welfare of the Tennessee Walking Horse is the primary concern of all breeders, owners, trainers and exhibitors.

-Ensuring that all breeders, owners, trainers and exhibitors treat their horses humanely and with dignity and respect, and use proper care in training, handling and showing them.

-Educating breeders, owners, trainers and exhibitors on the proper care of Tennessee Walking Horses.

-Continuing to work with USDA officials to ensure that the highest standards of welfare, safety and health are maintained at all Tennessee Walking Horse events.

-Developing and enforcing stringent rules that govern the exhibiting, judging, showing, and selling of Tennessee Walking Horses, in order that the natural abilities of the animals are best reflected.

-Increasing awareness of the rules among all breeders, owners, trainers and exhibitors, emphasizing that they are responsible for the welfare and humane treatment of the horses entrusted to their care.

3. No Person shall knowingly, or intentionally disseminate false or misleading information or engage in any practice which has the effect of corrupting the integrity of the Association or any activity it sanctions or otherwise engage in an unethical practice in any situation involving a Tennessee Walking Horse or any matter in which this Association has an interest.

4. No Person shall disseminate or make any false statement or representation concerning any other Person or the Tennessee Walking Horse Breeders' and Exhibitors' Association and if so made shall act promptly to correct erroneous communications which he or she has disseminated.

5. No Person shall conduct himself so as to cast doubt on his integrity and the desirability of the continuation of his status as a member or his enjoyment of the privileges of the Association.

6. In the event a Person believes in good faith or has evidence that another Person is in violation of any Rule or Bylaw of this Association, said Person shall present the information promptly to the Executive

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Secretary, Executive Director, or Enforcement Committee of this Association.

7. A Person shall in every situation, consider the welfare of the breed which shall be paramount over all other consideration. The best interest of the Tennessee Walking Horse must be the criterion in all transactions.

III. Enforcement.

This Code of Conduct Standards is intended as a guideline for the self-policing of a Persons actions. It is understood that flagrant alleged violation of this Code and/or Persons with repeated alleged violations of this Code may be subject to review and possible disciplinary actions as deemed necessary by the Executive Committee or Board of Directors of this Association.

Upon motion by Ms. Burgess, seconded by Mr. Bohl, ACTION WAS TAKEN, unanimously, to accept the recommendations for a TWHBEA Code of Conduct Standards as written, to the National Board.

The following Proposed Policy and Procedure – Oath of Office was presented as a recommendation to the National Board in May:

Effective December 1, 1995, all directors will be formally installed at the December Board of Directors Meeting. Each year thereafter, all new directors will be installed at the December meeting. The installation shall be conducted by the “outgoing President who shall lead directors in reciting the “oath of office”.

OATH OF OFFICE

- **TO** abide by the bylaws, rules regulations, mission statement, and Code of Conduct Standards of TWHBEA
- **TO** conduct myself and deliberate in all equine business matters in a manner which preserves the integrity of the registry and pedigree of TWHBEA
- **TO** conduct myself and deliberate in all equine business matters of TWHBEA in such a manner as to acknowledge and support all disciplines of the versatile Tennessee Walking Horse, and to preserve the right of each TWHBEA member to enjoy any and all of those disciplines they so choose
- **TO** never intentionally bring dishonor, harm or disrespect upon TWHBEA, and its members of the Tennessee Walking Horse
- **TO** keep TWHBEA and the Tennessee Walking Horse, along with TWHBEA members of my state, region or country foremost in my tenure
- **TO** represent and serve, to the best of my abilities, the TWHBEA members from the state, region or country in which I was elected
- **AND TO** deliberate openly, honestly, ethically and in good faith in all the proceedings of the TWHBEA International Board of Directors