

1. Introduction and Purpose of the Code of Conduct

Australian Galloway Association Mission Statement

To achieve a dynamic and successful Association that concentrates its resources around a unified plan and consistently meets the needs of its members and their clients.

Purpose of the code of conduct:

The Australian Galloway Association (AGA) as an incorporated association recognises the actions of its members in regards to their responsibilities in law and also the Association's By Laws and Rules. The Association feels incumbent to provide these codes of conduct to protect the future of the Association and the reputation of its members.

Because of the diverse nature of its membership the AGA Code of Conduct provides a simple, clear and common basis for its expectations of the behaviour of its members in relation to the public, and to the laws relating to the treatment of people and animals.

This Code of Conduct sets out the principles, values, standards and rules of behaviour that guide the decisions, procedures and systems of the AGA in a way that contributes to the welfare of members and their cattle, and the rights of all other people affected by the AGA's operations.

The Code of Conduct applies to members of the Association, and more broadly to others with whom members come into contact with, when caring for and showing animals.

This Code of Conduct clarifies the standard of behaviour that is expected of all members and office bearers in the performance of their duties, and seeks to give guidance in the making of personal and ethical decisions. It also underpins values that the AGA and its members wish to present to the world at large.

The Code of Conduct provides the basis against which the actions of members and office bearers will be judged.

2. Public Representation

Members shall ensure their conduct does not bring discredit to the Association or Galloway cattle in general.

This Code of Conduct recognises that the person in control of an animal at any time has absolute responsibility for its treatment and condition.

When acting as an AGA member or representing the AGA at shows and public events, cattle exhibitors shall at all times deport themselves with honesty and good sportsmanship. Unacceptable practices include criticising or interfering with the judge, show management or other exhibitors while on the show grounds, or other conduct detrimental to the breed or the show. It is also considered unacceptable practice to alter in any way AGA marketing materials for the use of marketing to the public, without written approval from the AGA Committee.

3. Members Conduct

The AGA is welcoming, and it seeks to include members with an interest in Galloway cattle.

The AGA opposes all forms of harassment, discrimination and bullying. This includes treating or proposing to treat someone less favourably because of a particular characteristic; imposing or intending to impose an unreasonable requirement, condition or practice which has an unequal or disproportionate effect on people with a particular characteristic; or any behaviour that is offensive, abusive, belittling, intimidating or threatening – whether this is face-to-face, indirectly or via communication technologies such as mobile phones and computers. Some forms of harassment, discrimination and bullying are against the law and are based on particular characteristics such as age, disability, gender, sexual orientation, pregnancy, political or religious beliefs, race, and marital status.

The AGA takes all claims of harassment, discrimination, bullying and cyber bullying seriously. We encourage anyone who believes they have been harassed, discriminated against or bullied to raise the issue with the association (see Complaints Handling).

When advertising and selling cattle, AGA members should conduct their business dealings with honesty and integrity. False or misleading advertising, particularly where advertising or representations to prospective purchasers promote the seller's membership of the AGA is an unacceptable practice bringing discredit on the association which could be subject to action under this Code of Conduct.

4. Safety and Treatment of Cattle

As an AGA Member I will not:

- 1) Neglect or mistreat my animals, but on the contrary at all times safeguard and further their wellbeing.
- 2) Knowingly transfer any animal to a party who I feel will not conscientiously look after its health, safety and well being or may exploit or degrade or otherwise act to the detriment of the breed of animal.

5. Complaints Handling

The person observing the inappropriate conduct should, if they feel comfortable, talk to the person and explain how their conduct is not in accordance with these AGA code of conduct.

If the matter cannot be resolved or if the matter is serious, the complainant should contact the AGA Executive Officer to make a formal complaint.

Notwithstanding this, the complainant may contact any member of the AGA committee with the concern to make a formal complaint.

A formal complaint will be dealt with in accordance with the rules of the Association.

6. Compliance

Members shall ensure their conduct complies with the code of conduct of the AGA and the AGA's rules and regulations, as well as with any State or Federal legislation.

There is an expectation of due diligence by AGA members to keep accurate stud cattle breeding records. There is a requirement of accuracy in the submissions to the AGA office, in particular information that affects pedigree information in the AGA herd book.

The AGA maintains and provides a record of the pedigrees of registered cattle. AGA members are expected to support the integrity of the herd book by providing accurate information on the members own stud herds.

Deliberately submitting false or misleading records or submitting records you are unsure about in any way is a serious matter and will be considered an unacceptable practice that brings discredit on the association.

In addition to random DNA tests indicated in the Association by-laws, the Association reserves the right to verify pedigree records by DNA testing if there is reasonable doubt of discrepancies in the pedigree records.

REFERENCES

A great deal of information on the care and treatment of animals is provided by State Government departments of primary industry. The Australian Government provides information on the laws relating to occupational health and safety and discrimination, while statutory corporations such as Meat and Livestock Australia provides information on statutory obligations relating to animal management.

A selection of links to web sites of interest to AGA members in relation to this Code of Conduct is provided below. Note that Government department names are changed periodically, and should this happen, these links may not be immediately corrected by the AGA.

(Press Control + Click to follow a link.)

- 1) DPI (treatment of cattle/livestock)
<http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/agriculture/beef-and-sheep>
<http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/livestock/beef>
http://www.daff.qld.gov.au/27_119.htm
<http://www.dpiw.tas.gov.au/inter.nsf/ThemeNodes/DREN-4VH8AN?open>
http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/livestock/beef_cattle
http://www.agric.wa.gov.au/PC_91759.html?s=967565745,Topic=PC_91756
- 2) Rules(conduct unbecoming reference section 7 in AGA rules)
<http://www.galloway.asn.au/rules.html>
- 3) Showing Bylaws(AGA By Laws reference)
<http://www.galloway.asn.au/rules.html>
- 4) AGA Objectives
<http://www.galloway.asn.au/objectives.html>
- 5) Cattle Management
<http://www.mla.com.au/Home>
- 6) Occupational Health and Safety
<http://australia.gov.au/topics/health-and-safety/occupational-health-and-safety>
- 7) Discrimination, Harassment and vilification
<http://www.hreoc.gov.au/legal/FDL/index.html>