



VETERINARIANS FOR ANIMAL WELFARE AOTEAROA

VISION | A GOOD LIFE FOR ALL

CULTURE | INTEGRITY AND PROFESSIONALISM
CREATED THROUGH FAIR, HONEST, & RESPECTFUL BEHAVIOUR

Veterinarians for Animal Welfare Aotearoa is a collective of animal welfare advocates. Our purpose is to create better lives for animals using knowledge and expertise in veterinary and animal welfare science.

We create influence through advocacy, submissions, education, consultation, and collaboration. We provide a unique voice for animals, underpinned by science, and not compromised by commercial or vested interests.

Veterinarians for Animal Welfare Aotearoa advocacy focuses on all 5 domains of animal welfare and strives to create “A Good Life.”

Veterinary-led

Science-backed

Independent

Advocates

CODE OF CONDUCT

PURPOSE & SCOPE

This Code of Conduct sets out expectations for all Members and Directors of Veterinarians for Animal Welfare Aotearoa.

FUNDAMENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Members shall:

1. support and promote the vision, and emulate the culture of the organisation, and
2. act in accordance with this Code of Conduct, the Membership Statement and the Constitution of Veterinarians for Animal Welfare Aotearoa.

EXPECTATIONS

All Members will:

1. abide by the Fundamental Responsibilities, meaning;
 - a. acting with integrity and professionalism, and
 - b. being fair and honest, and
 - c. behaving in a respectful way,so as to maintain and build the reputation of Veterinarians for Animal Welfare Aotearoa, and
2. respectfully listen, respond and engage with differing views, opinions, knowledge and expertise;
3. respect, and not undermine Veterinarians for Animal Welfare Aotearoa’s decisions, policies, and directions;

4. contribute to and champion, a safe and inclusive environment, including respectfully addressing harassment, exploitation, or discrimination;
5. respect and maintain confidentiality of Veterinarians for Animal Welfare Aotearoa's business and collateral, as appropriate, both during membership and after retiring as a member;
6. not represent or speak on behalf of Veterinarians for Animal Welfare Aotearoa without express permission from the Executive Committee or Directors;
7. understand that information, design, and intellectual property created for the Organisation remains the property of Veterinarians for Animal Welfare Aotearoa, and may not be used or distributed without permission;

and when representing Veterinarians for Animal Welfare Aotearoa, including on the Executive Committee, members will:

8. make decisions fairly and impartially, and accept responsibility for decisions made;
9. inform the Executive Committee of any interests that need to be registered¹;
10. enter only into transactions and/or make promises on behalf of Veterinarians for Animal Welfare Aotearoa following delegation from the Executive Committee or Directors;
11. not use the name and/or membership of Veterinarians for Animal Welfare Aotearoa to promote personal views or philosophies, without prior approval from the Executive Committee or Directors.

¹ An interest must be registered when an individual's or an associated person's interests, interfere, appear to interfere or have the potential to interfere, with the interests of the Veterinarians for Animal Welfare Aotearoa.

APPENDIX 1

Rule 5 | Obligations of Members

- 5.1 All Members (including Committee Members) and Directors shall promote the interests and purposes of the Organisation and shall do nothing to bring the Organisation into disrepute.
- 5.2 Every applicant for membership must agree to the applicable Membership Statement and the Code of Conduct.
- 5.3 A Member must abide by the Organisation's Rules and Conduct of Conduct.
- 5.4 At any time, the Directors may revoke any membership, should a Member not adhere to the Rules, the Membership Statement or not abide by the Code of Conduct, or in any other way present a real, or foreseeable, risk to the reputation of the Organisation. No correspondence will be entered in to.
- 5.5 A Member is only entitled to exercise their rights of membership (may include attending and voting at General Meetings, accessing or using the Organisation's premises, facilities, equipment and other property) if all Membership and any other fees have been paid to the Organisation by due date; no Member or Honorary Life Member is liable for an obligation of the Organisation by reason only of being a Member.

The Committee may decide what access or use Members may have of or to any premises, facilities, equipment or other property owned, occupied or otherwise used by the Organisation, including any conditions of and fees for such access or use.
- 5.6 Every Member represents only themselves unless they are the representative of a body corporate. Being a body corporate representative does not limit that representative being an individual Member.
- 5.7 Every Member shall provide the Organisation with that Member's name and contact details (must include but is not limited to a telephone number(s), and an email address) and promptly advise the Organisation of any changes to those details.
- 5.8 Any Member that is a body corporate shall provide the Executive Committee/Secretary with the name and contact details of the person who is that body corporate's authorised representative, and that person shall be deemed to be the body corporate's proxy for any purpose allowed for in the Rules.
- 5.9 Membership does not confer on any Member any right, title, or interest (legal or equitable) in the property of the Organisation, nor may a Member speak, write nor communicate on behalf of the Organisation, without express permission from the Committee or Directors.