

AMERICAN GAITED MULE ASSOCIATION CODE OF ETHICS

Purpose

The Code of Ethics is promulgated as an aid to the preservation of the integrity of the American Gaited Mule, the records of the Association, and the relationships among the Association, its members, and any other “person” or “persons” who enjoy its benefits and privileges. All persons are expected to abide by the following standards.

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 A.G.M.A. all persons shall support the Association Position Statement on Animal Welfare which states:

“The A.G.M.A. actively protects and promotes the welfare of the Gaited Mule. To this end, the A.G.M.A. is committed to the following:

- *Ensuring that the overall and ongoing welfare of the Gaited Mule and Gaited Donkey is the primary concern of all breeders, owners, trainers and exhibitors.*
- *Ensuring that all breeders, owners, trainers and exhibitors treat their Mules 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 Gaited Mules.*
- *Continuing, to work with USDA officials to ensure that the highest standards of welfare, safety and health are maintained at all A.G.M.A. events.*
- *Developing and enforcing stringent rules that govern the exhibiting, judging, showing, and selling of Gaited Mules 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 mules 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 Gaited Mules 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, and if so made A.G.M.A. shall act promptly to correct erroneous communications which he or she has disseminated.

Enforcement

This code of Ethics is intended as a guideline for the self-policing of a person's actions. It is understood that persons who commit flagrant or repeated violations of the code may be subject to possible disciplinary actions as deemed necessary by the Board of Directors of this Association.

Upon being installed as an Officer or Director of the A.G.M.A. Persons shall recite the "Oath of Office" as follows:

"I have read and understand the Code of Ethics adopted by the American Gaited Mule Association. I hereby agree to abide by the requirements of the Code in my conduct as an Officer, Director, and Member of this Association.