

CODE OF PRACTICE

- **Members shall practice with integrity, responsibility and trustworthiness and shall recognise their responsibility to clients, client's dogs and other pets, client's property, and security and safety in general. The welfare of client's dogs and other pets shall be paramount and shall not be made subordinate to commercial consideration.**
- **Members shall maintain professional relationships with their clients and shall not exploit such relationships for improper personal, professional or financial gain, nor seek inappropriately to impose their own values on clients.**
- **Members shall not disclose any personal or private information about their clients.**
- **Members shall not seek to attract business unfairly or unprofessionally or conduct their practice in any way that would discredit the reputation of NARDS.**
- **Members are required to accept and abide by this code, to abide by and observe any other rules, regulations and pronouncements of NARDS, and to acknowledge that membership shall not be used to endorse the activities of any club, society or other organisation.**
- **Members are not permitted to speak on behalf of NARDS in their endorsement of commercialisation of any product, service or in the event of interview or provision of information to any member of the press or other media.**
- **Members must not make misleading claims or statements in advertising or otherwise.**
- **Members must abide by the Terms and Conditions set out below.**

TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR REGISTERED DOG SITTERS

- Members must generally love animals and have experience of owning/caring for them.
- Members who offer to board dogs should not board dogs from more than one owner at one time unless all owners know and have agreed to this.
- Members engaged in dog boarding, house/petsitting should not leave dogs/pets or property unattended except for very short periods as agreed with the owners or in an emergency situation (we feel that dogs should not be left for a longer period of 4 hours). Day visits are not acceptable if dogs are then to be left unattended at night.
- Members should provide clean, dry, warm, draught-free bedding space; an area for dogs/pets to relieve themselves for toilet purposes, food and exercise to owners requirements and maintain dogs/pets normal routine.
- Members should arrange to meet with the owners well in advance of the booking and ensure that petsitters terms and conditions and forms of authority are understood and signed by owners. (A template of all forms is supplied as part of the membership package). Dog walkers should not walk more than 4 dogs (depending on size, etc) at anyone time except with owners consent and always on a leads except when confined to a safe and secure area with the owners permission.
- Petsitters must ensure proper control at all times and dispose of excrement safely.
- Members are required to obtain a valid police check certificate if they hold keys to or have access to clients property for the purpose of pet/house sitting, dog walking or other services that would require you to enter the owners home.
- Members must keep proper records of all work undertaken. We recommend that petsitters acquire a basic understanding of animal training, first aid and general care for pets for which they are responsible. In the case of exotic pets they should seek specific guidance from the owner about the care of such pets and ensure that the owner is satisfied as to their competence.
- Members must abide by all current Health and Safety legislation.
- Members must abide by all National and Local Laws and Bylaws.
- Members are responsible for their own business. They are under no obligation to board/care for dogs/pets/property if they choose not to. NARDS acts only as agents and offers guidance and recommended conditions and cannot be held liable to or responsible for either party or their pets or property. Registration is renewable on payment of the annual membership fee. Registration may be cancelled for any breaches of the Code of Practice or these Terms & Conditions. In the event of cancellation, for any reason, the persons concerned will have no rights to operate

as a NARDS Registered Sitter. Membership fees are not refundable. The attention of Registered Petsitters is drawn to the terms of the Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963. 'NARDS' is the trading name of 'Nationwide Associates of Registered Dogsitters'.