

CODE OF ETHICS & PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

- 1.1. Membership of the Canine Bowen Technique Association (hereinafter referred to as "CBTA") must represent a commitment to upholding and promoting the highest standards of ethical practices both as described herein and where this Code omits, as good faith and good conscience dictate.
- 1.2. This Code is intended to reflect the current Law as applied in the UK. Outside the UK treatment Law may be different in some areas – and the statements in this Code will be amended in future as appropriate, but bearing in mind that the fundamental priority at all times is the welfare and well-being of the dog.
- 1.3. CBTA as a body shall provide a forum for therapists and their clients to voice concerns, complaints or thanks and shall aim to put into place a system, where appropriate, for disciplinary action. Consequences shall be at the discretion of the CBTA who will endeavour to deal with matters in a fair and unbiased manner.
- 1.4. Submissions for revisions to the Code of Ethics shall be accepted at any time and the Code will be reviewed annually.

Practices 2. General

- 2.1. Members will treat all people and dogs with whom they come into contact in a responsible and professional manner.
- 2.2. Members shall aim to be aware of and act within all relevant local and national laws.
- 2.3. Members shall only treat a dog after receiving prior written referral from a veterinary surgeon.
- 2.4. Members may not practise when not in a fit physical or mental condition.
- 2.5. It is obligatory that members have insurance for both professional indemnity and public liability.
- 2.6. Members will continue to review, educate and advance themselves in the field of Canine Bowen and any other field which may be to the advantage of dogs.
- 2.7. Any educational or marketing material, and any public talk or lecture produced or given by a member must have a statement saying that *Canine Bowen Technique* is only available on veterinary referral.
- 2.8. In any advertising, educational, or promotional materials, or other communications, written or verbal, members must only use accurate statements or representations, and only use titles, degrees or diplomas to which they are entitled. Claims of past performance must be accurate and verifiable. Any endorsements used or implied must have actually been achieved.
- 2.9. Members will not diagnose the condition of a dog unless they are qualified to do so, but will instead refer the owner/carer of the dog to their veterinary surgeon for such purposes.
- 2.10. Members must not give advice on diet, skin, coat, or other areas or conditions unless they are qualified to do so.
- 2.11. Members must never openly criticise or denigrate any current or previous diagnosis or treatment made by a suitably qualified veterinarian or therapist.
- 2.12. Members will not copy, reproduce or duplicate, in any manner whatsoever, either in hard copy or electronic media, the whole or any part of any training course manual, course notes, other printed matter or presentation materials without the prior written consent of the training course provider.
- 2.13. Members will not broadcast, transmit, give, or show, for any purpose whatsoever, the whole or any part of the information contained in any training course manual, course notes, other printed matter or presentation materials without the prior written consent of the training course provider.
- 2.14. Members will not teach, or assist with the instruction of, any form of therapy which makes use of any of the information provided by the training course without the prior written consent of the training course provider.

3. Dealings with Clients & their Dogs

- 3.1. Members must hold as their main priorities the welfare of all dogs with which they come into professional or personal contact, and the integrity of the relationship between client and dog.
- 3.2. Members will only use humane methods in their handling of dogs, and will never force treatment on a dog.
- 3.3. Members will not make promises about the outcome of their treatment.
- 3.4. Members will advise, educate and encourage the client as appropriate in matters regarding appropriate aftercare measures.
- 3.5. Members will keep accurate and complete records of all clients and their dogs, as appropriate and for an appropriate length of time (currently seven years). Such records will be kept confidential and secure at all times, unless given prior consent of the client or veterinarian.
- 3.6. Members will refer the client back to the veterinary surgeon if they consider this to be in the best interests of the dog's welfare.
- 3.7. Members will refer the client back to their veterinary surgeon with recommendations for further treatment via other therapies eg nutrition, hydrotherapy, whenever the therapist considers this appropriate for the welfare of the dog.
- 3.8. Members will neither prescribe, nor alter any currently prescribed, medication for the dog.

4. Dealings with Veterinarians

(See also 2.3, 2.9, 3.6, 3.7,3.8)

- 4.1. Members will inform and maintain contact with the referring veterinarian during the treatment period if the veterinarian has so requested.
- 4.2. Members will respect the decisions of the veterinarian at all times and will cease treatment if requested to do so.

5. Dealings with other Members

- 5.1. Members will share within the membership of CBTA, the results of any research they perform in the field of Canine Bowen or any other field which may be to the advantage of dogs.
- 5.2. Members will credit the work of others appropriately, whether within CBTA or outside, where publication or broadcast of such work is made.
- 5.3. Members will refrain from infringement upon another member's signature mark, copyright, business name or slogan.
- 5.4. Members will avoid knowingly soliciting other member's clients, except where some mutually agreed arrangement or co-operation is made.

6. Use of SocialMedia/Discussion Forums

(See also 2.11, 2.12, 2.13, 2.14)

- 6.1. Members will not discuss situations or cases involving named or pictured individuals or their dogs on a social media site or internet forum without the permission of the individual concerned.

6.2. Members are reminded that social media sites can have a wide audience and so will not make derogatory remarks about *Canine Bowen Technique* or CBTA matters, or about any fellow member of CBTA, using such sites or in any other public place/media/domain.

6.3. Members will not discuss *Canine Bowen Technique* Moves or Procedures or any other material presented in the training course, on a social media site or internet forum unless within a group restricted to members of CBTA only. Membership of such closed groups must be conditional on the undertaking that any discussions remain within the group and are not repeated elsewhere.