

North Dakota Quarter Horse Association

Code of Ethics

Rational: Principles and practices of the North Dakota Quarter Horse Association Board of Directors and individuals hired by the board at an at-will basis to provide guidance and direction for effective governance.

Code: Members of the Board of Directors and individuals hired by the board an at-will basis are committed to observing and promoting the highest standards of ethical conduct in the performance of their responsibilities with the North Dakota Quarter Horse Association. Board members and individuals hired by the board at an at-will basis pledge to accept this code as a minimum guideline for ethical conduct and shall:

Integrity

1. Faithfully abide by the by-laws, rules, and policies of the North Dakota Quarter Horse Association.
2. Adhere to the professional standards of the American Quarter Horse Association and to work to further its goals and objectives.
3. Ensure the welfare of the American Quarter Horse, and every horse shall be at all times be treated humanely and with dignity, respect, and compassion.
4. Exercise the power invested for the good of all members of the association rather than for personal benefit.
5. Respect the confidentiality of sensitive information known to the Board of Directors and used for the purpose of governance and management.
6. Conduct all business affairs with integrity, sincerity, and accuracy in an open and forthright manner.
7. Act with integrity and confidentiality in financial dealings.

Professionalism

1. Maintain a professional level of courtesy, respect, and objectivity in all matters and activities related to the North Dakota Quarter Horse Association.
2. Strive to uphold these practices and assist other board members and employees in upholding the highest standards of conduct.
3. Promote collaboration, cooperation, and sportsmanship among association members.
4. Handle our business, communications (including social media), and activities in a manner that promotes the positive image of the North Dakota Quarter Horse Association and the American Quarter Horse industry.
5. Respect the diversity of opinions expressed or acted upon by the Board of Directors and individuals hired by the board at an at-will basis, and formally submit dissent to the Executive Secretary.

Disciplinary Action: The NDQHA Board of Directors may have to take disciplinary action against Board members or individuals hired by the board at an at-will basis who repeatedly or intentionally fail to abide by our code of ethics. Disciplinary actions will vary depending on the violation, but may include termination of employment.