

The Governing Council of the Cat Fancy

Social Media Code of Conduct

This Code applies to all individuals, organisations and Clubs subject to GCCF Rules and Byelaws. It should be noted that failure to comply with the requirements stated may result in disciplinary action by GCCF, (see Byelaw 12d).

1. GCCF recognises that the internet provides unique opportunities to participate in interactive discussion and share information on particular topics using a wide variety of social media. However, use of social media can pose risks to GCCF's confidential and proprietary information, and reputation, and can jeopardise its compliance with legal obligations.
2. Those subject to GCCF Rules and Byelaws must comply with the requirements of this Code at all times, including whenever they use any form of social networking websites that now exist or may exist in the future, including but not limited to: Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, Wikipedia, Flickr, MySpace, Tumblr, Pinterest, Google+, and YouTube, and whenever they participate in or respond to any internet postings, including blogs and wikis (together "social media"), however the same are accessed, in each case using any device existing now or in the future.
3. Failure to comply with the provisions of this Code may result in GCCF taking disciplinary action against that individual, organisation or Club in accordance with these Rules. Civil and/or criminal proceedings could also be brought for breach of this Code where applicable.
4. GCCF may require individuals, organisations or Clubs to remove postings, comments or any other submissions made using social media that are deemed to constitute a breach of this Code Failure to comply with such a request may in itself result in disciplinary action.
5. GCCF reserves the right to monitor, intercept and review, without further notice, social media postings and activities that include references to it, and/or its associates, to ensure that its Codes of Practice are being complied with and for legitimate business purposes. Individuals, organisations and Clubs consent to such monitoring by their agreeing to abide by GCCF Rules and Byelaws.
6. In their use of the internet and social media, individuals, organisations and Clubs must:
 - a. Not post any threatening, derogatory, obscene, indecent, seditious, offensive, pornographic, abusive, disparaging, racist, discriminatory, menacing, inflammatory, blasphemous, or defamatory statements or material, including, but not limited to, statements or material concerning:
 - i. GCCF;
 - ii. Individuals formerly associated with GCCF;
 - iii. Sponsors of GCCF and;
 - iv. Affiliates and stakeholders of GCCF;
 - b. Not make any statements that could directly or indirectly damage the name or reputation of GCCF.
 - c. Make it clear in social media postings that they are speaking on their own behalf and that, where they disclose their association with GCCF, their views do not represent those of GCCF; and
 - d. Not use GCCF logos, slogans, or other trademarks, or post any of its confidential or proprietary information without the prior written permission of GCCF.
7. GCCF will comply fully with any:
 - a. Law;
 - b. Request by any Governmental or regulatory authority; or
 - c. Order by a court or other authority of competent jurisdiction that requires GCCF to disclose the identity of location of any individual, organisation or Club subject to GCCF Rules posting any material in breach of the requirements of this Code. GCCF may share the personal information of those subject to its Rules and Byelaws with the police or any other government authority if it is asked to do so in connection with the investigation of suspected illegal activities.

Sanctions to be confirmed