

Code of Ethics

Members of the Finnsheep Breeders Association (FBA) subscribe to the following Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct. They agree to follow the guidelines listed herein candidly and forthrightly:

1. To practice and support the goals, principles, and procedures as set forth by the FBA.
2. To ensure the purity of the Finnsheep breed through accurate record keeping.
3. Ensure the genetic purity of registered Finnsheep through the use of progeny testing in situations where parentage may be unknown.
4. To be knowledgeable about the Finnsheep breed standard and thoroughly familiar with the various faults one may encounter in a breeding program in order to preserve and protect the integrity of the genome of this breed.
5. Members will not knowingly use for breeding any animal with major defects or hereditary diseases.
6. Members will aim to breed to the standards outlined in the FBA breed standard.
7. To refrain from the introduction of other breeds into sheep presented for purebred registration.
8. To refrain from using suspected crossbred Finnsheep, regardless of their registration status, in one's purebred Finnsheep breeding program.
9. To employ safe animal husbandry practices to insure the health and well being of one's flock. Members will always breed, raise and maintain their animals according to current animal welfare standards.
10. To practice honesty in all forms in representing the genetics of one's sheep and to be forthright in dealing with the public and potential purchasers of one's stock.
11. Members will deal honestly, ethically and fairly and will not engage in false or misleading advertising of stock.
12. To provide accurate and timely registration documents to purchasers of one's breeding stock.

Members who fail to uphold this standard of ethics and conduct may be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in the FBA Constitution.

FBA Code of Conduct

Members must be aware of their responsibilities and aim at all times to conscientiously maintain the highest possible standards of integrity.

1. Members will abide by the FBA Constitution, Code of Ethics, and Code of Conduct.
2. Members will treat each other with respect and courtesy and will aim to be inclusive of all members.
3. Members will not participate in, tolerate or condone any form of bullying, sexual harassment or discrimination.
4. To refrain from creating disharmony in the Association by attacking the good will of other members or the organization; the flaming of a member or officer online or in public constitutes creating disharmony.
5. Members should advance the interests of the FBA and maintain its integrity and status, including observing the highest standard of flock management, professional ethics, business practice and fair and proper competition.
6. Members will adhere to all state and federal laws pertaining to the keeping or breeding of sheep or livestock.
7. Members will sell animals in good healthy condition, free to the best of their knowledge from disease or major defects or hereditary disease.
8. Members will ensure that registration and transfer of stock is to be completed promptly in accordance with FBA guidelines.
9. Members selling registered Finnsheep will provide the purchaser with a Bill of Sale, explain the transfer process, and keep records of the purchasers of their registered Finnsheep.
10. Members should work to increase awareness of the Finnsheep breed.
11. Members should be conscious of the fact that all interactions they have, be it in person or online, are representing the breed and association as a whole.
12. To conduct oneself with dignity and honesty at any breed organization public function in such a manner that will enhance the image of the Finnsheep breed.
13. Members are to speak or act on behalf of the FBA only with approval of the organization.
14. Members should treat industry associates in a fair and respectful manner.
15. Members should be willing to share their experience with prospective members and members alike. Enquiries should be treated with courtesy. Requests for information, documentation, or advice should be satisfied in a professional and impartial manner. Bias of any kind should be avoided.
16. Members should be sensitive to conflict of interest and should immediately declare their interest and disqualify themselves from any activity that might be seen to suffer from that conflict. In this regard, no member will judge an animal or fleece in which they currently hold or previously held interest. Perceived conflicts of interest should also be avoided in order to protect and promote the standing of the FBA.
17. Members will accept with good grace the outcomes of activities conducted and decisions made by the FBA. Members with questions or concerns regarding these outcomes and decisions should submit them in writing to the board for review.

18. Members will be conscious that they are representing the breed in discussions both online and in person and taking into consideration the potential effects to the association and other members. Productive discussion regarding the breed is always encouraged.

Members who fail to uphold this standard of ethics and conduct may be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in the FBA Constitution.

Board of Directors, Officers and Committee Members

Board of Directors, Officers and Committee Members of the Finnsheep Breeders Association (FBA) subscribe to the Code of Ethics, Code of Conduct and the following. They agree to follow the guidelines listed herein candidly and forthrightly:

1. Board of Directors, Officers and Committee members are in a position of trust and will do nothing to abuse that trust.
2. Ensure the governance processes they undertake are guided by the following values: Transparency, Accessibility, Responsiveness, Accountability, Inclusiveness and Efficiency.
3. Behave honestly and with integrity in connection with their role
4. Carry out their functions with due care and diligence for the benefit of the association, as far as practical.
5. Disclose any interest in a matter that conflicts with their ability to perform their duties.
 - A. If a board member, officer or committee member has a direct or indirect conflict of interest in a matter being considered they must disclose the nature of the conflict, as soon as possible after becoming aware of it.
 - B. The board of directors must deal with any disclosure of interest.
 - C. The details of the interest must be recorded in the board of directors meeting minutes.
 - D. Unless the board of directors determines otherwise, the person of conflict cannot:
 - a. be present while the matter is discussed at the board of director meetings, or
 - b. take part in any decision of the board of directors with respect to that matter.
6. Maintain appropriate confidentiality about official dealings of the board of directors and committees.
7. Maintain confidentiality of the membership and confidential information of the FBA.
8. Not use their position or information acquired as a board of director, officer or committee member for improper purpose
9. Will use FBA resources in a proper manner and for a proper purpose.

Board of Directors, Officers and Committee Members who fail to uphold this standard of ethics and conduct may be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in the FBA Constitution.