



AMERICAN DEXTER CATTLE ASSOCIATION

Standard Operating Procedures

Section 14: Code of Ethics

As a member of the Association I agree that I will:

- A. Not knowingly make any untruthful statement in submitting applications for registry, and not register animals of questionable parentage.
- B. Not neglect or mistreat my animal(s), but, on the contrary, at all times safeguard and further its/their well-being.
- C. Not transfer any animal to a party who I feel will not conscientiously look after its health, safety, and well-being, or may exploit or degrade or otherwise act to the detriment of the breed of animal.
- D. Only breed animals that I know to be in good condition and health.
- E. Represent my animals honestly to prospective buyers and give such advice or assistance to the buyer as may be reasonably requested.
- F. Keep on the alert for and work diligently to control potentially adverse effects of known genetically inherited conditions by educating prospective buyers regarding the implications associated with the presence of these conditions in a breeding program.
- G. So act in my breeding practice and in dealings with others as to protect and improve the good standing and reputation of the breed and of the Association.
- H. Conduct myself in such a way as to protect the good order, welfare, reputation, and credit of the Association – abiding by the Bylaws and Standard Operating Procedures of the American Dexter Cattle Association – and doing no harm to the Association, its Officers and Board of Directors, or its membership.

Section 15: Standard Operating Procedures for Ethics Committee

Purpose: The purpose of this committee shall be to determine if a violation of the ADCA Code of Ethics has been committed, and then to make recommendations to the Board of Directors.

- A. The Ethics Committee will be comprised of seven (7) individual members in good standing of the American Dexter Cattle Association – these members will be appointed by the President. If a committee member is unavailable, or if there is a conflict of interest, the President may appoint a temporary committee member for deliberations. At least 4 of the committee members should be members of the Board of Directors. They will handle deliberations in all cases in a courteous, confidential, and expeditious manner.
- B. If an ADCA member feels that unethical behavior is occurring or has occurred, he or she may request involvement of the Ethics Committee by contacting his/her Regional Director. If that Director is the person charged with unethical behavior, then the member may turn to another Regional Director or President or Vice President of the ADCA. If the member feels that an ethics committee member may have a bias or conflict of interest regarding his case, that member may request in writing that the ADCA President replace the committee member in question for the purpose of those committee deliberations. By the same token, the member charged with unethical behavior may ask for temporary replacement of an ethics committee member if he/she feels there is a conflict of interest.
- C. Upon receiving notification from a member of the Board of Directors, or upon the request of the Registrar regarding a new membership, the Ethics Committee will review the existing or newly requested membership to determine eligibility for Full or Registration Only Membership.
 1. The Committee will be convened within 7 days of Request for Review.

2. The Committee will research to determine eligibility in a timely fashion – not more than 30 days. (If more time is needed, the committee may extend this time in 2 week increments, but should work diligently to reach an informed consensus.)
- D. The Ethics Committee will:
1. Research to determine whether or not the member has followed the ADCA Code of Ethics.
 2. Research to determine whether or not the member has held office in other Dexter Cattle Registries in North America.
 3. If it is determined that a violation has occurred, as determined by a simple majority of the committee members, the committee will forward all pertinent researched information, as well as their recommendations for action to the BOD.
- E. After case review, the Committee's recommendations may include:
1. RM Membership (defined as Registration of Animals Only.) This member will not have the right to vote, or to hold office, or to hold committee membership positions within the American Dexter Cattle Association. This member may register animals in compliance with the rules of the ADCA, and will receive all Bulletins and printed material which would routinely be sent to ADCA members.
 - * The RM Membership may be reviewed at the request of said member after a period of 1 year. This review will be conducted by the Ethics Committee who will then make recommendations to the Board of Directors. At that time, the RM designation may or may not be removed – at the will of the Board.
 2. Suspension of Membership – Upon receiving a request from the Board of Directors, the Ethics Committee will research the claims against the member and make recommendations to the Board of Directors for further action. Committee involvement in the suspension of a member is strictly at the will of the President and the Board of Directors or at the request of the member involved, and will be handled in a confidential and expeditious manner.
 3. Expulsion of Member – Upon receiving a request from the Board of Directors, the Ethics Committee will research the claims against the member and make recommendations to the Board of Directors for further action. Committee involvement in the expulsion of a member is strictly at the will of the President and the Board of Directors or at the request of the member involved, and will be handled in a confidential and expeditious manner.
- F. As a condition of membership into the ADCA, members agree that their membership status and any disciplinary action may be made public. A list of members on RM status will be maintained by the committee. This list will be available upon request by an ADCA member or prospective buyer. The rationale for RM status of a member may be requested by contacting the committee chairmen. The chairmen may then divulge which of the rules in the Code of Ethics was broken in a concise and unbiased manner.