**CFBA Code of Practice**

Note: In this document the terms 'Member' and 'Practitioner' refer to Members, Associates, Students and Fellows of the CFBA.

Canine and feline practitioners [CFPs] accept patients by referral from veterinary surgeons and/or other professional bodies [KC, welfare societies etc.] The welfare of the patient and client are at all times the prime consideration.

CFPs are covered by appropriate and adequate insurance, including public liability insurance and professional indemnity insurance, to meet any liabilities they may incur in the course of their duties as practitioners. Members will be expected to act within the law at all times. Any member breaking the law will have their membership and support withdrawn.

CFPs have a responsibility to their patients, clients and to the general public. Their techniques and advice should not knowingly cause avoidable psychological, physical distress or damage to any of the above. The treatment must be consistent with the breed type and temperament of the dog or cat.

CFPs’ techniques of behavioural modification are based on the knowledge and proven practical experience of the top behavioural trainers in the UK. CFPs’ clients are fully informed as to the nature and reasons for the methods used and to any possible drawbacks. They do not convey unrealistic expectations from their advice/techniques.

CFPs will at all times maintain a professional relationship with their client. Information acquired is confidential. Photography, video or tape recordings of the clients or patients are made only with the consent of the client. Where case studies are used in teaching and furthering the knowledge of behavioural techniques the anonymity of the client must be preserved and written permission should be obtained from the client.

Members cannot use or recommend the use of mind altering drugs on cats or dogs for behavioural modification. However if a veterinarian recommends such drugs in exceptional circumstances (and for the animal's welfare) the association has no objection. An example would be 5th of November.

Members should not act in any way which may be detrimental to the relationships with other professions. Where CFPs employ within their practice then the CFP (and member of the CFBA) is responsible for ensuring that any assistants who are not members of the CFBA also conform to the above code of practice.