

## **DSWA CODE OF PRACTICE**

The Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain (DSWA) aims to promote the highest standards of professional practice, responsibility and ethics within the craft of dry stone walling and to support excellence in all aspects of the discipline. All members of the Association are expected to act in a similar, appropriate manner, especially when practising the craft. DSWA would also expect this Code of Practice to apply to employees and/or volunteers who work with DSWA Members, whether they are members or not.

- Members of the DSWA are required at all times to uphold the dignity and reputation of the craft of dry stone walling and the Association; meaning, amongst other things, not inappropriately criticising or otherwise denouncing the motives, capabilities or professional standards of other members.
- Members should always conduct themselves in such ways as are appropriate to gain the respect and confidence of the general public, clients, employers and members of the DSWA and other organisations with whom they are associated, in relation to their dry stone walling activity. They shall exercise their abilities and discharge their professional or voluntary responsibilities with complete integrity at all times.
- Members should safeguard the public interest in all matters including health and safety in the conduct of their professional or voluntary duties, including appropriate insurance cover where necessary.
- Members should recognise that as part of the discipline of dry stone walling, they are providing an important contribution to the environment and landscape of the British Isles as well as improving the craft through training and understanding by the general public.
- Members should take all reasonable and responsible measures to safeguard the environment and its diversity and sustainability; all reasonable steps should be taken to avoid the waste of natural resources and damage to the environment.
- Members are expected to uphold the Code of Practice of any other professional or voluntary bodies to which they belong.

## **STATUS AND CERTIFICATION**

- Members shall use only the membership type and level of certification awarded by the Association and must not knowingly misrepresent their membership of the Association in any way.
- Members should always ensure the quality of their work reflects the level of certification held.
- The DSWA logo and name may be used on business stationery by current, paid-up Professional and Corporate members of the Association, in line with the Associations' brand guidelines.

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Members should:

- Take all reasonable steps to maintain and develop their professional competence and broader aspects of the craft relevant to their career and to disseminate this knowledge where appropriate.
- Ensure that their practice, expertise, knowledge, skills and techniques are up to date.

- Promote dry stone walling to both lay and expert audiences, including other professionals not necessarily familiar with the craft of dry stone walling.

- Encourage those for whom they have responsibility to increase their knowledge and performance and develop their potential through education, suitable training and continuous professional development.

## **EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

Members should have regard for equality of opportunity for all in the conduct of their professional or voluntary duties and should not knowingly discriminate directly or indirectly on the grounds of gender, marital status, sexual orientation, age, race, ethnic or national origin, religion or disability.

## **Breaches of the Code of Practice**

Any complaint brought against a member of the DSWA that constitutes an alleged breach of the Code of Practice should be reported to the DSWA Office and the matter will be forwarded to the Association's Chair. If it is determined that there is an apparent prima facie case, then the Association's Disciplinary Procedure will be invoked. Thereafter the Association's Trustee Board has the ultimate responsibility to consider whether or not to remove any member from membership.

<b>Issue / Revision</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description/Comments</b>	<b>Prepared By</b>	<b>Checked By</b>
	March 2018			
Rev A	March 2021			
Rev B	August 2024		H Lewis	P Clayton