



## **CODE OF CONDUCT FOR TELLINGTON TTOUCH® TRAINING PRACTITIONERS IN THE BRITISH ISLES**

The term Tellington TTouch® Training Practitioner applies to Tellington TTouch® for You, Equine and Companion Animal Practitioners.

**1. Ethics** - Tellington TTouch® Training Practitioners will always work with the following in mind:

Tellington TTouch® Training:-

- is an effective approach to the handling, training and rehabilitation of animals.
- recognises all animals as individuals and uses kind and respectful ways to interact with them, without using fear, pain or force.
- recognises an inextricable link between posture and behaviour and how this influences physical, mental and emotional well-being.
- focuses on what the animal or person can achieve, rather than their limitations and adopts the principle of 'less is more'.
- recognises the importance of clear communication and the intention to work with animals and people at their own pace to build trust and understanding.
- does not endorse the use of techniques, equipment, management, handling or husbandry that could cause animals unnecessary distress, discomfort, pain or fear.

### **2. Principles:**

Guild Members:

- will maintain a professional relationship with their clients and will not exploit such relationships for financial gain, nor impose their own values or ideas on their clients.
- whose services are engaged for Tellington TTouch® Training for one to one sessions will discuss with clients if offering other modalities alongside Tellington TTouch® Training.
- shall ensure that they are familiar with and adhere to all relevant legislation such as the Dangerous Dogs Act, Animal Welfare Act, the Veterinary Surgeons Act, Health and Safety, DEFRA (Notifiable diseases), Data Protection Act (GDPR) and the codes of practice of appropriate professional bodies.
- offering a workshop that combines other modalities, techniques, advice or subject matter in conjunction with the Tellington TTouch® Training, must ensure that this is clearly advertised and that the workshop is appropriately named/listed.

- shall respect the views and independent thinking of all others and work without judgement. They shall not publicly engage in disputes and ensure that it is clear that they are expressing their own opinions in any discussions that may take place.
- shall respect the beliefs, experience and capabilities of their clients and demonstrate TTouch skills that may be of assistance, without forcing any aspect of the work on their clients.
- shall not mislead any client about their level of expertise and/or level of qualification gained or shall not engage in any activity such as the giving of advice or demonstrating Tellington TTouch® Training techniques when not qualified to do so.
- shall not diagnose or attempt to diagnose any medical conditions during a Tellington TTouch® Training session. If there is any concern about the physical wellbeing of any animal, they shall recommend that the client takes the animal to a veterinary surgeon for a thorough health check.
- shall work with clients that seek help for medical problems with their animals with the consent of the client's veterinary surgeon.
- shall uphold the right to refuse to work with a client • shall not advertise, or offer for sale, any equipment that does not comply with the ethics of Tellington TTouch® Training
- should at all times ensure they are physically and mentally fit to work
- shall conduct themselves in such a way as not to undermine public or professional confidence in the Tellington TTouch® Training method.

Any concerns by Guild members (or members of the public) that the Tellington TTouch® Training method is being practised publically or being demonstrated in any way by an unqualified person and/or in such a manner as to bring Tellington TTouch® Training into disrepute, those concerns shall be sent – in writing, to the Guild Committee Chairman. The Guild Committee is mandated to investigate such concerns and respond accordingly. Any disputes should be raised with the Elected Guild Committee Chair in writing. However, if the dispute concerns the Guild Committee Chair, the matter should be taken directly to Tellington TTouch® Training Inc.

### **3. Confidentiality**

Guild members :-

- shall protect and preserve the confidentiality of their clients at all times. They shall refrain from discussing the client (or the animal) with anyone unless they have written permission from the client to do so, or unless they are in communication with a behaviourist, vet, physiotherapist, trainer etc. with the client's permission.
- shall keep appropriate records of their client sessions for their own professional practice and will ensure that they take all reasonable steps to preserve the confidentiality of any information required. Records should be kept in line the Data Protection Act 2018 and the relevant GDPR policy.
- shall not post comments, videos and photographs etc regarding their clients on social networking sites, websites etc. including comments made that may inadvertently reveal the identity of the client without the client's consent.
- teaching workshops or working together with other trainers or therapists will ensure that all parties involved understand and respect the need for confidentiality at all times.

#### **4. Insurance**

Guild members will ensure that they have appropriate and adequate insurance at all times to cover any work they may do with clients, running workshops/trainings, giving talks and demos, and for any event they attend for promotion of theirs or the Tellington TTouch® Training method work in general.

**All Guild members must be covered for the work that they do by their own insurance cover.**

Your insurance cover should include Public Liability and Professional Indemnity. If you are selling equipment you may also want to talk to your insurer about Product Liability.

You should be covered by insurance even if you are not charging for the work you do.

If you have no insurance you are advised that you should only work with your own animals.

Equine Guild Practitioners shall not give ridden instructions to mounted clients unless they are specifically insured to do so.

**Note: that you must seek cover for any volunteer assistants that help at workshops who for the day will be classed, by insurance companies, as employees.**

The Guild will not be held responsible for any claims against you personally as a Guild Practitioner. Individuals are responsible for ensuring their own competency to practice and must have appropriate and continuous insurance cover.

#### **5. Breach of Code of Conduct.**

Any Tellington TTouch® Training Practitioner who, after investigation following a complaint, is found to have breached this Code of Conduct will be referred to Linda Tellington-Jones or Robyn Hood. Linda Tellington -Jones and Robyn Hood have the exclusive authority to remove a Tellington TTouch® Training Instructor, Practitioner or Apprentice Practitioner from the Guild and revoke their right to use the Tellington TTouch® Training registered name.