



## **CODE OF CONDUCT:**

Membership of and/or participation in events, meetings, and activities of the Ruminant Veterinary Association (“RuVASA”) are subject to the terms and conditions set out in this Code of Conduct.

This Code of Conduct is based on the ethical concepts of respect, responsibility, fairness, and honesty:

- **Respect:** Respect is demonstrating a high regard for oneself, others, and the resources entrusted to them. Those resources may include people, money, reputation, the safety of others, and natural or environmental resources. An environment of respect engenders trust, confidence, and performance excellence by fostering cooperation — an environment where diverse perspectives and views are encouraged and valued.
- **Responsibility:** Responsibility is taking ownership of the decisions one makes or fails to make, the actions one takes or fails to take, and the consequences that result.
- **Fairness:** Fairness is making decisions and acting impartially and objectively. A member’s conduct must be free from competing self-interest, prejudice, and favouritism.
- **Honesty:** Honesty is understanding the truth and acting in a truthful manner both in one’s communications and in one’s conduct.

As a not-for-profit company, the RuVASA Board expects members and their representatives to observe and abide by the Code of Conduct, upholding the values, professionalism, and integrity of the Association.

In the event of any breach of or non-compliance by a member or its representative with any of the terms of the Code of Conduct, whether or not such breach or non-compliance is the subject of a complaint by another Association member, the Association reserves the right to take appropriate action against the defaulting individual including, but not limited to, exclusion from Association events and suspension of membership and/or membership benefits. In the case of severe or persistent non-compliance with the Code of Conduct by a member, the Association reserves the right to terminate the membership of the defaulting member, without liability to refund to such defaulting member any amount of membership fees paid in advance, whether in full or pro rata.

## **CREDO:**

We, the members of the Ruminant Veterinary Association, always undertake to:

- Honour the veterinary profession and uphold the Veterinary Oath, recognising our responsibility to the animals, people, and communities we serve.
- Commit to maintaining the highest professional, ethical, and scientific standards, ensuring excellence in all aspects of ruminant and rural veterinary practice.
- Apply our knowledge, skills, and resources to safeguard and advance the health and welfare of ruminant and other species, while contributing to the well-being of humans through safe, sustainable, and responsible food systems.

- Strive to elevate the status and image of the veterinary profession, and to foster, support, and enrich the advancement of ruminant and other animal veterinary science in South Africa.
- Promote the interests of our Association and the spirit of fellowship among its members, recognising that collaboration, mentorship, and shared purpose strengthen our profession and its impact.

Ons, die lede van die Herkouer Veeartsenykundige Vereniging, onderneem altyd om:

- Die veeartsenykundige beroep te eerbiedig en die Veeartsenykundige Eed te handhaaf, en erken ons verantwoordelikheid teenoor die diere, mense en gemeenskappe wat ons dien.
- Ons daartoe te verbind om die hoogste professionele, etiese en wetenskaplike standaarde te handhaaf, en uitnemendheid in alle aspekte van herkouer- en landelike veeartsenykundige praktyk te verseker.
- Ons kennis, vaardighede en hulpbronne toe te pas om die gesondheid en welstand van herkouer en ander spesies te beskerm en te bevorder, terwyl ons bydra tot die welstand van mense deur veilige, volhoubare en verantwoordelike voedselstelsels.
- Ons streef daarna om die status en beeld van die veeartsenykundige beroep te verhoog, en om die bevordering van herkouer- en ander dierveeartsenykundige wetenskap in Suid-Afrika te bevorder, te ondersteun en te verryk.
- Die belange van ons Vereniging en die gees van kameraadskap onder sy lede te bevorder, en te erken dat samewerking, mentorskap en gedeelde doel van ons beroep en die impak daarvan versterk.

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Full Name and Signature of Veterinarian / Volle Naam en Van van Veearts

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Signature of Veterinarian / Handtekening van Veearts

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Date / Datum

**VISION OF THE RuVASA:**

**PURPOSE:**

**MAIN OBJECTIVES:**