



The Cycad Society, Inc.

CODE OF ETHICS: TCS DIRECTORS (Approved 9 August 2003)



by
Terrence Walters, Jody Haynes & Tim Gregory

PREAMBLE

The Cycad Society (TCS) Board of Directors is a diverse group of individuals with varying backgrounds, professional affiliations, and belief systems. TCS Board of Directors is committed to serving the members of the Society and the cycad community at-large through promoting ethical practices and accountability to the Members. In an effort to gain and maintain the Members' trust, the Directors embrace the ethical values and principles set forth below.

RESOLUTION

- Whereas TCS is a non-profit organization; and
- Whereas non-profit organizations serve the public good; and
- Whereas service is built upon the public's trust; and
- Whereas public expects high standards of conduct in return for its trust;

Be it resolved that TCS Board of Directors will develop a Code of Ethics subscribed to by all of its Directors.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Mission and Programs

- Directors shall be diligent in assuring that the mission of TCS continues to be relevant.
- Directors shall support and remain directed, whenever feasible and within reason, the areas of cycad conservation, education, and research.
- Directors shall appropriately evaluate programs and projects of TCS to ensure efficiency and effectiveness.
- Directors shall carry out programs and services of TCS with the utmost professionalism and respect for every person that the programs and services serve.
- Directors shall aspire to making programs and services of TCS available to everyone who could benefit from them.
- Directors shall read, support, and uphold the Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation of TCS.
- Directors shall respect and support the decisions of the Board.
- Directors shall approach all Board issues with an open mind.

Integrity and Conflict of Interest

- Directors shall always act in the best interest of TCS.
- Directors shall develop written policies that prevent actual, potential, or perceived conflicts of interest on the part of the Directors or Members.

- Directors shall not receive monetary or material benefit as a result of direct official participation in TCS.
- Directors shall publicly disclose any interests that they may have with a business or proposal to do business with TCS.
- Directors shall refrain from disclosing confidential information acquired during the course of their official duties.
- Directors shall not use information obtained from TCS to further their personal interests without prior approval from the officers.
- Directors shall not engage in negotiations with companies doing business with TCS without the knowledge and authorization of the Board.
- Directors shall be professional and civically minded in their behavior at all times based on honesty, fairness, good will, and respect for the law.
- Directors shall only exercise their authority as a Director when acting in a meeting (whether electronic or physical) with the Board or as delegated by the Board.

Governing Body

- Directors shall act in such a way as to represent the public's interest in the Society's mission and ensure that all actions are carried out in such a way as to engender the public's trust.
- Directors shall ensure that all printed and electronic matter released through the Society and material associated with the Society meets all aspects of this Code of Ethics.

Conduct

- Directors shall conduct themselves in such a manner so as not to give the impression that any person can influence them or unduly enjoy favor from them with regard to the performance or their official duties.

Human Resources

- Directors shall ensure that systems are in place which effectively orient, train, and evaluate new Directors and Officers.
- Directors have an obligation to ensure the commitment of future Directors to TCS's mission and effectiveness of their service.

Fundraising

- Directors' fundraising practices shall be consistent with the mission, compatible with organizational capacity, and respectful of donor interests.
- All fundraising programs shall reflect a foundation of truthfulness and responsible stewardship.
- Directors shall honor the intentions of the donor and the confidential nature of the relationship.
- Directors shall ensure that policies are in place to govern acceptance and disposition of gifts.
- Directors shall exercise control over all individuals and organizations known to be soliciting contribution(s) on their behalf.

Penalty for Misconduct

- In addition to any penalty contained in provisions of law, any Director who knowingly and intentionally violates any provision of this Code may, by majority vote of the Board, be suspended or removed from their position, pending legal resolution of the matter in question.
- In event of any misconduct, misadministration, or malfeasance in position or office, a Director or Officer may be removed from position or office in accordance with the TCS Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws.

Amendments

- Once accepted, this Code of Ethics may only be amended by a majority vote of the Board after the amendment has been considered and discussed during a meeting of the Board of Directors.
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This Code of Ethics was approved and implemented by the Board of Directors on August 9, 2003.

Signed by the
President:

Thomas H. Bross

Signed by the
Secretary:

Jody Haynes