

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR DELEGATES OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY FIREARMS COUNCIL INC

Preamble

Every organization has a generally accepted code of conduct whether implied or explicitly written. Since its inception the NT Firearms Council has worked on an implied code of conduct for delegates but changing political circumstances has highlighted the need for greater discipline in the ranks of firearms owners and users. The attached is a formal code of conduct required of prospective delegates to Council that will provide guidance to both prospective delegates and to member associations with responsibility for selecting delegates. Confidentiality is a primary focus of the code and the underlying power for that requirement rests both within Common Law and the Northern Territory *Associations Act 2006*.

The role and objectives of Council are detailed in the Council's strategic plan. The selection criteria for delegates to Council and the legal duties and obligations of Council delegates are provided as separate documents for the information of both member associations and delegates to Council.

Council is a unique organization with unique objectives and operations. Consequently information that should be protected may not necessarily fall into one of the traditional categories of confidential information such as "commercially sensitive information". Information is sensitive where it is of specific value to Council particularly where its disclosure would be detrimental either to Council or to the broader interests of the NT firearms community. In the context of Council, this would involve any information that is of value to Council in the sense that its disclosure might cause damage to Council's reputation, or disclose plans, which Council would not want revealed to stakeholders at that stage.

Incoming delegates to Council will be required to sign the attached code of conduct thereby confirming their agreement to abide by the principles involved.

Code of Conduct

(To be signed by all delegates as a pre-requisite to joining Council)

I being the appointed delegate of

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hereby agree to comply with the following code of conduct of the Northern Territory Firearms Council while I am a delegate to that Council.

I will

- utilize my skills and knowledge to the best of my ability to contribute positively to Council goals and objectives during normal Council business
- agree to respect the duties and obligations of a Council member as outlined in the document *Duties and Obligations of NT Firearms Council Members*
- agree to direct all inquiries as to the affairs of Council to the Council office
- endeavor to acquire a working knowledge of the fundamentals of the business of Council
- agree that all public statements on behalf of Council are made either by the President or such members that Council may authorize from time to time
- agree not to reveal any discussions or meetings or documents relating to policies or plans in their “fleshing out” stages
- respect the confidentiality of discussion in Council and agree that the only information that should be divulged outside of a meeting is the major decisions and the reasons for those decisions
- agree that Council is justified in not disclosing all its activities on the basis that in doing so it is acting in the interests of Council, by preventing information that may be detrimental to it from being revealed and potentially distorted
- accept that I have a duty to act in the interests of Council, which includes the interests of all stakeholders and not select individuals or groups
- ensure that my actions are in the best interests of Council, rather than for political expediency accepting that from time to time it may place me in a difficult position, but also accepting that the Council member’s duties must always be upheld despite any pressures placed upon me by others
- agree to support and/or promote as necessary any decision made by Council irrespective of my feelings on the matter or the way I may have voted at the time.

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Delegate

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Witness

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