

# SESNZ

SPORT & EXERCISE SCIENCE

— NEW ZEALAND —

## CODE OF ETHICS FOR ACCREDITED MEMBERS

Accreditation by SESNZ requires acceptance and compliance of this Code of Ethics for Accredited Members. The Code establishes a standard against which professional behaviour of SESNZ members may be evaluated. Behaviour contrary to the advice of the Code amounts to behaviour against the best advice of SESNZ.

The Code will be used by SESNZ in determining appropriate courses of action regarding complaints concerning the ethical behaviour of SESNZ Accredited Members.

This Code covers all SESNZ Accredited Members while engaged in a professional capacity – whether paid or unpaid.

Members are expected to:

- maintain professional objectivity and integrity, and work within their scope of practice.
- apply professional knowledge and skills to all work undertaken, and to refer clients\* to other professionals/experts where necessary.
- remain current with their knowledge of scientific, technical and professional information relevant to the services they offer.
- respect the cultural and social environment in which they work.
- hold the interests and welfare of their clients as primary importance and ensure informed consent is obtained from clients where necessary.
- present opinions of their own in a fair, accurate and honest manner
- maintain accurate and current client records.
- ensure ethical approvals are obtained from the appropriate bodies where necessary.
- maintain professional indemnity insurance
- not fix or attempt to fix a match (or any part of a match) or use or reveal inside information for the purposes of betting.

Members should develop, maintain, and encourage a high standard of professional training and competence. They accept they are accountable for their professional actions.

Members should readily provide information on professional qualifications and descriptions of services to help the public to make informed choices of the quality and type of services they can provide.

Members should be familiar with, and are expected to comply with, the requirements of New Zealand legislation ([www.legislation.govt.nz](http://www.legislation.govt.nz)), including but not limited to the following legislation and codes:

- Sports Anti-Doping Act 2006 (until the Integrity Sport and Recreation Act 2023 comes into force)

This Act established the New Zealand Sports Drug Agency (Drug Free Sport NZ) and provides for testing for the use of drugs in sport, to encourage drug-free sport, and for related purposes.

([www.drugfreesport.org.nz](http://www.drugfreesport.org.nz)). Members discourage the use of banned performance enhancing substances and banned doping methods unless an athlete has a therapeutic use exemption (TUE). Members should co-operate fully with the athlete testing programme and not impede doping control officials.

- Privacy Act 2020

This Act governs how organisations and businesses can collect, store, use and share your information. The Health Information Privacy Code 2020 sets specific rules for agencies in the health sector to better ensure the protection of individual privacy. ([www.privacy.org.nz](http://www.privacy.org.nz))

- Consumer Guarantees Act 1993 and Fair-Trading Act 1986

Under the Consumer Guarantees Act, consumer rights are expressed as a series of "guarantees" that a seller automatically makes to a consumer when they buy any goods or service ordinarily purchased for personal use. ([www.consumeraffairs.govt.nz/for-consumers/law/consumer-guarantees-act](http://www.consumeraffairs.govt.nz/for-consumers/law/consumer-guarantees-act))

The Fair-Trading Act prohibits what is called "misleading or deceptive conduct, false representations and unfair practices". It also sets out when information about certain products must be disclosed to consumers and helps ensure products are safe. ([www.consumeraffairs.govt.nz/for-consumers/law/the-fair-trading-act-1](http://www.consumeraffairs.govt.nz/for-consumers/law/the-fair-trading-act-1))

- Health and Safety at Work Act 2015

The Act and related regulations require that workers and others are given the highest level of protection from workplace health and safety risks, so far as is reasonably practicable. This includes risks to both physical and mental health. <https://www.employment.govt.nz/workplace-policies/health-and-safety-at-work/>

- Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003

The Acts purpose is to protect the health and safety of members of the public by providing mechanisms to ensure the lifelong competence of health practitioners. The Act builds on the framework created by earlier legislation, particularly the Medical Practitioners Act 1995. All the major concepts of the Medical Practitioners Act 1995 have been carried forward into the Act, adjusted where necessary to generic terms to provide a framework that can apply to all health practitioners not just doctors. ([www.health.govt.nz/our-work/regulation-health-and-disability-system/health-practitioners-competence-assurance-act](http://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/regulation-health-and-disability-system/health-practitioners-competence-assurance-act))

- New Zealand Public Health and Disability Ethics Committees (HDECs)

New Zealand has several ethics committees, which were established under the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000 (later, New Zealand Public Health and Disability Amendment Act 2020) . The primary role of the committees is to provide independent ethical review of health and disability research and innovative practice to safeguard the rights, health and wellbeing of consumers and research participants, particularly those with diminished autonomy. (<https://ethics.health.govt.nz/>)

- National Animal Ethics Advisory Committee (NAEAC)

This committee has been established under the Animal Welfare Act 1999 (later, Animal Welfare Amendment Act 2022) to provide independent advice to the Minister of Agriculture about ethical and animal welfare issues relating to the use of animals in research, testing and teaching, and recommendations on the restrictions of use of non-human hominids. (<https://www.naeac.org.nz/>)

**\* Definitions:**

Clients Used as a generic term to refer to any person who is seeking professional services and/or advice from SESNZ Accredited Members, regardless of whether a payment of a fee for this service/advice is received or not; is part of a research project as a participant; or an animal being provided a service from SESNZ Accredited Members or involved in research.