



# Code of Ethics

## Tai Chi for Health Community NZ Inc

### All members shall:

1. Adhere to and uphold the Code of Ethics and Rules of Practice as shall be determined by the Society;
2. Only offer services for which they are specifically trained, and only claim knowledge, skills or qualifications actually possessed;
3. Act with integrity, respecting the rights to privacy and confidentiality of others;
4. Use the Society name and logos only in accordance with the prevailing guidelines;
5. Maintain an interest in the well-being of all human beings, regardless of colour, creed or nationality;
6. Members have a duty to protect the natural environment and to minimise any adverse impact their work may have;
7. Members who are instructors and leaders take personal responsibility for ensuring that their conduct adheres to the high standards established in global health communities. The universal standards of "first do no harm" and "all persons are treated with dignity and respect" are paramount in the practice of teaching and are specifically incorporated into these standards; and in addition instructors and leaders take steps to meet the standards of practice set by the Society;
8. **In maintaining standards members who teach Tai Chi for Health (TCH) classes shall:**
  - (a) Prepare and teach their TCH classes within the guidelines of the safe and effective teaching system they have been trained to use;
  - (b) Continue their personal development as a means to maintain and improve skills, knowledge and professional conduct;
  - (c) Monitor and encourage all participants to stay within their "comfort zone";
  - (d) Respect participants' right to safety by avoiding physical contact;
  - (e) Treat all participants equally, avoiding favouritism or the appearance of favouritism;
  - (f) Respect participants' diversity in all respects;
  - (g) Respect personal and confidential information disclosed by participants;
  - (h) Be aware of the limits of their skills, experience and knowledge;
  - (i) Consult with mentors and knowledgeable professionals when such consultations are needed;
  - (j) Refer participants to their health professional when asked about health concerns by the participant.
9. **Responsibility to Colleagues** - TCH instructors and leaders take responsibility for treating colleagues with respect. As a colleague a TCH instructor will:
  - (a) Speak positively and kindly of other instructors;
  - (b) Respect personal boundaries and established relationships between instructors and their students. Offer guidance to a colleague if asked, especially by one who is less experienced;
  - (c) Provide accurate descriptions of their certifications and related qualifications;
  - (d) Provide honesty in all advertising and promotional materials;
  - (e) Participate proactively in opportunities of collaborating with colleagues to promote the society and TCH programmes.
10. **Responsibility to TCHC NZ** - As a member of the Society, instructors and leaders support the growth and development of the Society by:
  - (a) Maintaining their membership;
  - (b) Updating their certifications as appropriate;
  - (c) Responding to requests for time and talent;
  - (d) Recruiting new members to the organization;
  - (e) Participating in Society sponsored events.
11. **Professional Integrity** - TCH instructors and leaders represent the Society in a professional manner by:
  - (a) Describing themselves as certified TCH instructors and leaders in an honest and accurate way in all respects;
  - (b) Presenting a positive image to their community;
  - (c) Supporting the goals and positive intentions of the Society.
12. **Conflict of Interest:** The society and its members shall not seek to influence matters of TCHC NZ to benefit interests they hold in areas outside of the society. Registrants are to consider areas of conflict of interest. Members are to consider development of new conflicts of interest. Conflicts of interest are to be disclosed to the committee. The committee recognises these conflicts and will expend every effort to facilitate membership.
13. **Review:**

The Society is committed to reviewing this Code in the light of experience and on a regular basis with the aim of improving both the process and the outcomes from it.

The Code is to be reviewed at least every two years and also in the light of experience, best practice or significant change. All aspects of this Code shall be open to review at any time.
14. Members must be aware that the above Summary of the Code is not exhaustive and that they must act ethically in all circumstances whether specifically mentioned by the Code or not.