

Alberta Professional Outfitters Society

Code of Ethics

Members of the Alberta Professional Outfitters Society of Alberta subscribe to a high standard of professional conduct and ethics. This code provides a standard of conduct for an outfitter, and gives the sportsman a clear indication of what to expect from a member outfitter.

- 1. A member, or anyone employed by a member, shall not breach, encourage or condone any violation of the Alberta Wildlife Act and regulations. A member shall make a reasonable effort to report any violation of the Alberta Wildlife Act and regulations, of which they have knowledge, to an Alberta Conservation Officer or to Report a Poacher, at their earliest opportunity. A member shall be in a position to advise both employees and clients of their rights and responsibilities under the Act and regulations, while under his jurisdiction.**
- 2. A member, or any of his employees, shall not use any alcohol, or any other drug or substance, to the extent that the use impairs the user physically or mentally, while engaged by a client.**
- 3. A member shall be willing to make restitution in cash or in-kind for breach of contract between himself and his client, where the client is not at fault.**
- 4. A member breaches the APOS code of ethics who gives false or misleading information to prospective clients and, in particular, information relating to accommodation, weather, in respect to his/her experience, quantity and quality of game species, outfitting fees and expenses, hunting terrain and equipment available.**
- 5. A member shall maintain clean, comfortable, sanitary accommodation and should promote the highest possible standards in the preparation of food.**
- 6. A member shall provide each client, in writing, prior to the commencement of the hunt, with a complete rate (CDN or US\$) schedule, which shall include all charges, a deposit policy, and deposit refund policy, for services offered. Rates or policies will not be**

changed from those published without the written consent of the client after the outfitter receives and accepts the deposit from the client.

- 7. A member will not interfere, by solicitation or otherwise, with a contract between another outfitter and client, when it is known or reasonably should be known that a contract to provide services exists between that other outfitter and a client.**
- 8. A member shall employ only competent guides with the prerequisite skills and knowledge of the hunting area and species hunted, to ensure that the contract between the client and outfitter is fulfilled. A member shall maintain a reasonable degree of supervision over employee/contract guides to ensure that the services offered are in accordance with the contract signed with the client.**
- 9. A member shall make every effort to ensure the safety of clients, during the hunting trip, and during transportation to and from the hunting area. Firearm safety will be a priority at all times during the conduct of the hunt.**
- 10. A member shall maintain a degree of proficiency, responsibility and professional standards satisfactory to APOS.**
- 11. There shall be full cooperation between members of APOS. Prior use rights, camp sites, bear baits, grazing privileges and other existing practices of members will be respected by fellow members and their employees/contract guides. A member shall not, without just cause, directly or indirectly, injure the reputation or business of a fellow member of Alberta's Outfitted hunting industry. A member shall also respect the activities and needs of the resident hunter by not initiating or soliciting for exclusive use of any wildlife resource or access.**
- 12. A member shall not advertise outfitting services unless he is the holder of a Class S or Class T Outfitter Guide Permit and the holder or permitted user of the allocations to be used.**
- 13. A member has a duty to uphold the standards and reputation of the Alberta Professional Outfitters Society and the outfitting profession and assist in the advancement of their goals. A member shall not harm or tend to harm APOS or the outfitting profession.**